

Israeli patrol attacked in Sidon

BEIRUT (AP) — Resistance forces fired machine guns and a rocket-propelled grenade at an Israeli patrol as it drove in the South Lebanese port city of Sidon shortly after midday Sunday, witnesses reported. Local reporters quoted the witnesses as saying the patrol, made up of two armoured personnel carriers, was hit as it drove near the government house in Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut. The witnesses said they believe one armoured carrier may have been hit by the grenade but there was no immediate word on casualties. Israeli troops sealed off the area and staged a search for the assailants, rounding up a number of citizens and pedestrians, the witnesses said. They said the attack on the Israelis came as a foot patrol belonging to the Israeli-backed "South Lebanon army" militia passed by in the same area.

Resistance is the only answer in Lebanon, page 2

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الراي"

Hussein attends Ifar banquet

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday evening attended an Ifar banquet hosted by Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat on the anniversary of the Great Arab Revolt and Army Day. The banquet was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ed Ibn Zaid, cabinet members, senior officials and high ranking army officers, as well as heads of diplomatic missions and military attaches in Amman. The party said prayers before the banquet and later King Hussein presented medals to a number of army officers and non-commissioned officers on the occasion.

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Botha to meet Pope today

ROME (AP) — South African Prime Minister P.W. Botha, who is scheduled to meet with Pope John Paul II on Monday, arrived in Rome Sunday for the last stop of his eight-nation European tour. Mr. Botha made no comments to reporters after his arrival from Vienna. The Vatican announced Saturday that the Pope will receive Mr. Botha in a private audience on Monday, although the time was not announced. While in Rome, Mr. Botha is also expected to meet with Italian government leaders before leaving Wednesday.

Police detain SWAPO leaders

WINDHOEK, Namibia (South West Africa) (R) — Police in Namibia have rounded up top political allies of the SWAPO command group fighting South African rule. They raided a baroque on the grounds of a Roman Catholic church near Windhoek Saturday and arrested 37 people, including Nathaniel Mawuli, acting president of the SWAPO political wing, which operates openly within Namibia (South West Africa). The roundup marked an apparent reversal of South Africa's recent but so far unfruitful peace moves towards SWAPO (the South West Africa People's Organisation).

Pope concerned over Punjab crisis

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II on Sunday expressed his concern for the "increasingly grave events" in the Indian state of Punjab, where hundreds of Sikhs were killed in an army siege of the Golden Temple last week. The pontiff, addressing a crowd of more than 3,000 tourists and pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square for his weekly noon blessing, noted the "tragic facts" and the "sad tally of hundreds of dead."

Bomb hoax on Air India plane

NAIROBI (R) — Kenyan police searched an Air India plane arriving in Nairobi from Bombay Sunday after an anonymous warning that a bomb was on board, the official Kenyan News Agency (KNA) said. KNA said dogs trained to sniff explosives boarded the plane after a telephone caller said that it "would be meeting a violent end." No device was found and the plane flew on to Lagos. KNA quoted the airline's Nairobi station manager, B.K. Kappor, as saying that Air India flights worldwide were on alert because of possible repercussions from clashes in Punjab between government troops and Sikh terrorists (See page 8).

Turkey detains 3 Greek fishermen

ANKARA (AP) — Turkish security forces on Sunday arrested three Greeks when they were fishing in Turkish territorial waters in the Aegean Sea, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported. Anatolia said they would be tried in Turkey for violating laws regulating entry of foreigners and use of territorial waters.

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Kuwaiti tanker hit in raid by unidentified plane

Iran, Iraq accept U.N. call to halt attacking towns

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — A Kuwaiti supertanker was slightly damaged in an attack by an unidentified aircraft in the Gulf Sunday while Iran and Iraq announced their acceptance of U.N.-sponsored proposal to stop attacks on each other's towns.

The latest vessel to be hit in the war on shipping in the Gulf was the Kuwaiti supertanker Kazimah which was hit Sunday by a missile from an unidentified aircraft, but the ship's owners said the damage was not serious.

The chairman of the Kuwait Oil Tanker Company (KOTC), Abdul Fatah Al Badr, told Reuters from Kuwait that the 294,739-deadweight-ton vessel had been hit in tanks number four and five.

He said a fire aboard the Kazimah had been extinguished and there were no reports of casualties among the 27 crewmen of mixed nationality.

The tanker had been proceeding in ballast to Kuwait and was now reported to be heading for Bahrain for repairs to the tanks on the starboard side of the ship.

The sources said the Kazimah issued a distress call at 1.40 p.m. (1040 GMT) from a position 26 degrees 16 minutes north and 52 degrees 44 minutes east, placing it in the centre of the Gulf due east of the northern tip of Qatar. The sources noted that this was

the furthest south an attack has been launched so far against shipping in the 44-month-old Gulf war.

The attack was also outside a recently-extended war danger zone declared by Japanese shipowners and seamen which took in the major Saudi Arabian oil terminal at Ras Tanunrah.

Two KOTC tankers were the first to be hit when Iranian planes began retaliating for Iraq's blockade of Kharg Island by attacking neutral ships outside the Iran-Iraq war zone. The Umm Qasbah and Bahrah were hit May 13 and 14 respectively.

A Saudi tanker was hit on May 16 and on May 24 a Liberian-registered oil-chemical carrier heading to load naphtha at Kuwait was also attacked by Iranian planes.

Iran neither confirmed nor denied the earlier attacks on tankers owned by Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, which support Iraq in the war. Iraq has acknowledged numerous strikes against ships using Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal at the head of the Gulf.

Meanwhile, Iran and Iraq said Sunday they had agreed to a request by United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to stop attacks on each other's civilian areas.

The Iranian state radio, quoting President Ali Khamenei, said that Tehran was willing to cease bombing residential areas in Iraq, if the Baghdad government agreed to do the same.

In Baghdad, Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the Iraqi Foreign Ministry has "received instructions from the Revolutionary Command Council to approve the U.N. secretary general's proposal."

Later on Sunday the Iraqi News Agency said President Saddam Hussein has accepted the call by Mr. Perez de Cuellar.

In a message to the U.N. chief released here by the INA, President Hussein asked Mr. Perez de Cuellar to set up arrangements to supervise the commitment.

President Hussein said in his message that acceptance carried a proviso "that Iran does the same and that you lay down at the earlier opportunity effective arrangements to supervise both sides' commitment."

Arab and Western diplomatic sources here noted it was the first time Iran responded favourably to a ceasefire request since the outbreak of hostilities with Iraq in September 1980.

In his message to Mr. Khamenei, quoted by the Iranian news

agency, IRNA, Mr. Perez de Cuellar asked Iran and Iraq to declare by 1200 GMT on Monday that attacks on civilian areas would stop by 0001 GMT the next day.

In his reply, Mr. Khamenei said Iran was responding positively to the proposal "to show its good faith" but reserved the right to retaliate for any Iraqi attack.

Hundreds of people have been killed or wounded since the two countries launched a series of attacks on each other's civilian areas last week.

The shelling and missile attacks started last Tuesday when Tehran claimed more than 300 people were killed in the Iranian town of Baneh.

IRNA said Mr. Perez de Cuellar had called on the two countries, at war for more than 44 months, "to declare to the U.N. secretary general that each will undertake a solemn commitment to end deliberate military attacks on purely civilian population centres."

Iraqi threat

On Saturday, Iraq threatened to attack Iranian economic installations, including the Kharg Island oil terminal "without mercy" until there is no oil for Iran to export.

GCC oil ministers hold emergency meeting; Israel concerned over U.S. "tilt" towards Gulf Arabs, page 2

U.N. chief's helicopter comes close to being attacked in Beka'a

AMMAN (R) — Two helicopters carrying United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and his party came close to being fired at by Syrian missiles in east Lebanon's Beka'a Valley Sunday, a U.N. source said.

The Lebanese helicopter crews had not told the Syrian Defence Ministry they were flying over the Beka'a and a U.N. message to the Syrian Foreign Ministry had apparently not been relayed to the Defence Ministry, the source said.

Syrian batteries on the alert asked for instructions on whether to fire but the Foreign Ministry in Damascus contacted the Syrian command in the Beka'a to inquire about the expected important visitors, the source said.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar told reporters: "We were very fortunate, as you know — we were close."

The U.N. group was on its way from Jounieh, north of Beirut, to Damascus, to board a special flight to Jordan.

Those on the helicopters also included an under-secretary-general, several senior U.N. officials and three reporters.

Islamabad denies role in Sikh crisis

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan Sunday denied Indian charges of involvement in Sikh violence in the neighbouring Punjab state of India, and asked New Delhi not to vitiate atmosphere between the two countries.

A Foreign Ministry statement denied the charges made by an Indian general Saturday that some of the Sikh terrorists who fought the Indian troops storming the Golden Temple in Amritsar last week had come from Pakistan.

Major-General R.S. Brar, who commanded the assault, told Indian Television that some weapons found in the temple with Chinese and Pakistani markings had been smuggled across the Pakistan border

U.N. secretary-general begins visit to Jordan

Perez de Cuellar emphasises Palestinian role in peace talks

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar arrived here Sunday on a three-day official visit to Jordan during which he is expected to discuss with the Jordanian government ways to start a negotiation process to solve the Middle East problem.

Speaking to reporters upon his arrival at Amman Airport, Mr. Perez de Cuellar said that the Palestinian presence is "indispensable" for any solution to the conflict in the area, and that the U.N. has given top priority to efforts to start the negotiating process between the parties involved.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar told reporters that the U.N. Security Council resolutions are an appropriate forum for starting the negotiating process to solve the problem in the region.

The U.N. secretary-general, who is here on the fourth leg of a Middle East tour which took him to Egypt, Syria and Lebanon, said that a U.N.-sponsored international conference on the Middle East was a "good alternative" for a solution. However, he said, "we should not be paralysed if one of the options did not work."

Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, who received Perez de Cuellar, said the question of an international conference would be among subjects he would discuss with the U.N. chief.

"The Middle East is in bad need of efforts by the U.N. and we have always believed in the important role the U.N. can play," Mr. Masri said.

The U.N. chief, in response, expressed a "deep interest" in accelerating the peace process in the region and said "we should not allow the (current) situation in the Middle East to last forever."

On the Iran-Iraq conflict, Mr. Perez de Cuellar reiterated his concern over the recent civilian casualties as the warring nations attacked each other's towns and said he hoped the warring sides would exercise restraint. He said he had not yet been officially advised of reports that Iran and Iraq had accepted his appeal to stop attacking each other's civilian targets, but said he expected to hear from his office in New York.

He added that the U.N. has been always involved in negotiating a solution to the Gulf war although "not much success" has been achieved.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar, accompanied by a 10-member U.N.

delegation including Under-Secretary General Brian Urquhart, attended a dinner hosted by Mr. Masri Sunday evening.

The visiting U.N. chief is scheduled to have talks with His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and other high-ranking government officials. He will also visit the Baq'ah Palestinian refugee camp, Un Qais, Mokhaibeh and Deir Alla.

The U.N. secretary-general arrived here from Lebanon and is scheduled to leave Jordan Tuesday for Israel, his last stop of his five-nation tour.

Masri voices Jordan's concern

In a speech he delivered at Sunday's banquet, Mr. Masri said Jordan is concerned over the situation in the Middle East and has given top priority to efforts to solve the Palestinian problem. He referred to Jordan's efforts within the U.N. and the international arena as the best proof of the country's intentions and efforts to achieve peace in the region.

Jordan has responded favourably to all initiatives aimed at achieving peace in the Middle East and but Israel's intransigence towards all proposals has constituted a stumbling block in the path for peace," he pointed out.

The foreign minister voiced Jordan's concern over Israel's recent measures to build more Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab territories at the expense of the Arab people and land.

Israel, he said, is also creating serious problem by implementing a project to link the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea.

Mr. Masri also reiterated Jordan's support for an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all parties concerned and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Any effort to solve the Middle East problem should be based on U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, which rules out the admissibility of occupation of other's land by force, Mr. Masri said.

Praise for Jordan

In reply to Mr. Masri's speech, Mr. Perez de Cuellar stressed Jordan's role in the region and the international arena and praised the country's leadership.

"At a time when we have perfected means of destruction of unparalleled sophistication, it is heartening to observe a government and people who so evidently believe that real strength lies in lea-

dership, unity and restraint," he said.

Efforts exerted by the U.N. to find a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict have made little headway, Mr. Perez de Cuellar said, but "it is absolutely essential that we do not resign ourselves to a course of drift and despair."

The worsening situation in the Middle East "would have the gravest implications for world peace" and "whatever the difficulties, a way must be found to get to the roots of the problem, and start to bridge the gap the Gulf that divides the parties," he said.

The U.N. chief expressed renewed support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people which he said are "at the core of the Middle East problem."

Resolution 242

He said he believes that "we need to regain momentum and a sense of purpose in finding the means to implement Resolution 242 and to achieve a comprehensive, just and durable peace in this area."

Mr. Perez de Cuellar expressed sadness over the situation in Lebanon and said he hoped that the U.N. would be able to help the country solve its various problems.

The U.N. secretary-general said his current visit to the Middle East was to "explore with all concerned whether the peacemaking resources of the U.N. might not be used to more effectively in resolving" the "vital problems" of the region.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar expressed hope that "eventually a means will be found by which all the peoples of this historic region may live in peace."

"For my part I am committed to do anything I can to assist Jordan and the other parties to this end," he concluded.

Upper Volta confirms coup attempt

OUAGADOUGOU (R) — Upper Volta Sunday confirmed that an attempt was made to overthrow the government of radical leader Thomas Sankara at the end of last month. A statement by the ruling National Revolutionary Council broadcast on Ouagadougou Radio said: "An attempt at destabilisation was effectively thwarted a few days ago." It was the first official response to press reports that a coup had been planned for May 28, although the official newspaper Sidwaya mentioned threats to internal security.

Israeli censors threaten to 'punish' U.K. journalist

TEL AVIV (R) — James McManus, correspondent of a British daily newspaper, the Guardian, said Sunday Israeli military censors were threatening to punish him for a report on the deaths of two Palestinian commandos.

A lieutenant-colonel in the Jerusalem censors' office summoned Mr. McManus and complained that he had not sought the censors' approval before reporting that a senior member of Israel's military command faced disciplinary measures after an army inquiry into the deaths, Mr. McManus said.

Mr. McManus said he was told

he had committed a serious infraction of Israel's censorship code, that the chief censor, Brigadier Yitzhak Shani, was considering the affair, and that unspecified punitive action would be taken.

The inquiry found that two of four Palestinians who hijacked an Israeli bus last April were beaten to death after Israeli soldiers captured them alive.

Foreign correspondents are required to sign an undertaking that they will abide by Israeli censorship and submit reports on "security" and other "sensitive topics."

Israel announces five new settlements

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Israeli government Sunday endorsed the establishment of five new Jewish settlements in the occupied Golan Heights and West Bank, the cabinet secretary announced.

The announcement said two of the settlements authorised by the ministerial committee on settlements, Kanaf and Dabot, are to be established in Syria's Golan Heights, which Israel occupied in the 1967 war and annexed in December 1981.

Three other settlements, Eilat Shama, Yearit and Neriah are to be established in the northern part of the West Bank, the announcement said. The West Bank was also occupied in the 1967 war. It is populated by 900,000 Palestinians and 30,000 Israelis.

About 100 settlements exist in the West Bank and a dozen more have been authorised, although work has not yet begun on building them. Two of the new West Bank settlements are to be financed by private builders, the third by the government, the announcement said.

The statement referred to what it called constructive nature of a dialogue between the two neighbours for a peace treaty and said Islamabad hoped attempts to "vitalize the atmosphere for narrow and momentary propaganda gains will be eschewed."

Iraqi press calls on Gulf Arab states to resist Iran

BAGHDAD (R) — The official Iraqi Press said Sunday the Arab Gulf states could count on Iraq's support in resisting what the newspapers said were Iranian threats against Gulf nations.

The ruling Baath Party newspaper Al Thawra said: "The Arab states in the Gulf must take a firm attitude towards the Iranian aggression, counting on the support of Iraq, which has huge military potential and destructive weapons."

Tehran's leaders have warned the Arab Gulf states against supporting Iraq in its 44-month-old war with Iran, saying they would suffer the consequences if they did not stay neutral.

Al Thawra said in an editorial: "The long experience of the Gulf

war proves that the Iranian regime understands nothing but the language of force.

"It proves that the regime will not retreat from its aggressive policy unless it receives destructive blows."

The government newspaper Al Jumhuriya said Arab Gulf states should not ignore what it said were the Iranian threats.

It praised the Saudi Arabian Airforce for shooting down an Iranian F-4 Phantom jet last Tuesday, saying it had reminded Tehran of the preparedness of Saudi Arabia and other Arab states in

the Gulf.

"Those states have proved they are prepared to defend their pride and protect their interests, thus forcing Iran to keep within its own borders."

Al Iraq newspaper, the only private daily in the country, expressed regret over what it said was the "hesitation by some Gulf brethren to confront Iranian aggression."

An editorial written by Information Ministry Under-Secretary Abdul Jabbar Mohsen said: "I am sorry to hear some saying they do not wish to be involved in the war, as if it was Iraq's war only and not their war as well."

"Those who believe that if Iran wins it will remember their hesitation in supporting Iraq are greatly mistaken," the editorial added.

Sudan confirms abduction of Germans

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — Southern Sudanese rebels are trying to take two West German civilians they kidnapped last month into Ethiopia and Sudanese authorities are "closely monitoring" their actions, a Sudanese official was quoted as saying Sunday.

Official Al Sahafa newspaper quoted the Governor of South Sudan's region Bahr Al Ghazal, Lawrence Wol Wol, as confirming the abduction of the two West Germans but denying reports of the abduction of 63 Sudanese soldiers in the same incident.

This was the first official confirmation from Sudanese authorities about the abduction. Last month, the West German government said Klaus Frahm, 45, and Horst Peters, 27, were abducted. They worked in southern Sudan for the Deutsche Entwicklungsdienst, a volunteer organisation similar to the Peace Corps.

"The outlaws have actually managed to kidnap two West German experts, but reports about the abduction of Sudanese soldiers are totally incorrect," Mr. Wol Wol was quoted as saying.

"We are monitoring closely the movement of the outlaws and their attempt to take the Germans into Ethiopia," he added.

GCC oil ministers hold emergency meeting

JEDDAH (R) — Oil ministers of the Gulf Arab states gathered for emergency talks Sunday evening on ways to protect Gulf oil shipments, as a Kuwaiti supertanker fell victim to a fresh air attack on the waterway's shipping.

As the ministers prepared to meet in the Saudi summer capital of Taif, owners of the 294,739 deadweight-ton Kazimiah said it was struck by a missile from an unidentified aircraft in the centre of the Gulf, off northern Qatar.

The talks were called following a slowdown in tanker traffic in recent weeks as air attacks spread from the northern Gulf war zone to the rest of the waterway.

Tehran has warned repeatedly that no vessels in the Gulf were safe while Iraq continued to attack its own oil shipments.

Official Radio Riyadh said the

oil ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) — grouping Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates — would discuss ways to ensure safe passage for their oil shipments.

They would also look at world oil stockpile levels, production and pricing policies, the radio said.

In Kuwait, oil industry sources said the ministers would draw up a contingency plan covering possible falls in oil supplies if GCC exports were blocked due to Iranian attacks.

The sources, quoted by the Kuwait News Agency, said the ministers were also expected to review the effects of any closure of the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Persian Gulf which might arise from the 44-month-old Gulf war.

Iran has warned it would close

the strait if its oil exports were halted, while the United States has pledged to keep open the strategic Gulf outlet through which one-sixth of the non-Communist world's oil supplies pass.

The Qatar News Agency reported the Qatar had tabled a proposal for consideration of a single pipeline to carry all GCC nations' oil to the Arabian Sea outside the Gulf.

In an apparent response to Iran's repeated threats to close the Hormuz Strait, Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, has already built up an oil stockpile estimated at 50 million barrels stored in tankers outside the Gulf.

It has also recently switched some of its exports to the Red Sea port of Yanbu from its more vulnerable Gulf ports.

Western officials said this week

during the London summit of the leading industrialised nations that the West could survive any Gulf war oil crisis by drawing on national strategic reserves.

The International Energy Agency estimates that stocks held by the 24 non-Communist industrialised nations belonging to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development would equal about 97 days' consumption by the end of this month.

Iraq increases number of telephones in service

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq will have one telephone for every 15 people by the end of this year, the chairman of the state Post, Telegraph and Telephone Organisation told the Iraqi News Agency INA Sunday.

In some areas, the number of phones would be one for every three people, he said.

INA reported that Iraq at present has more than 750,000 telephones for a population of 15 million people, or one phone for every 20 people, compared with 90,000 phones before the ruling Baath Party came to power in July 1968.

The agency quoted the PTT chairman as saying Baghdad, with a population of around four million, has 420,000 telephones.

Qadhafi receives Saudi message

BEIRUT (R) — Libyan Leader Muammar Qadhafi received a message Saturday from King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, the Libyan News Agency JANA said in a report monitored in Beirut.

It said the message was handed over by a Saudi envoy but did not disclose the contents.

Libya raps Colombo for Israeli ties

BEIRUT (R) — Libyan Foreign Minister Ali Abdul Salam Al-Turiki has written to Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Abdul Cader Sahul Hameed criticising Sri Lanka's decision to let Israel open an interest sections in Colombo.

The official Libyan News Agency JANA said Mr. Turiki told Mr. Hameed that Libya resented

the decision and would have to reconsider its relations with Sri Lanka if the Colombo government carried it through.

The Sri Lankan Foreign Ministry announced the decision on May 31 and official sources said the office would enable Sri Lanka to get help from the Israeli security service Mossad in training its security forces.

JANA quoted Mr. Turiki, whose official title is secretary of the Foreign People's Committee for Foreign Liaison, as saying the reasons Sri Lanka had given for opening the office were totally unconvincing.

"This act will never help develop relations between the Islamic World and Sri Lanka," he added.

Israel concerned about U.S. tilt to Gulf Arabs

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli officials are concerned about an increased U.S. involvement in the Iran-Iraq war that could result in a flow of sophisticated arms to Israel's Arab enemies.

"If our advice to all our friends to be neutral and to permit these two crazy countries to destroy each other," Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said on Israel Radio Saturday.

Israel's government strongly opposed the recent shipment of XTS Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Saudi Arabia for protection against Iranian air strikes.

Israeli officials argued the easily portable, shoulder-fired missiles could eventually find their way to Palestinian commando groups.

"This is one of the dangers we can face if the crisis will go on," Mr. Shamir said. "Of course the flow of sophisticated arms to Saudi Arabia is one of our concerns, and we are doing the utmost we can about it."

One military source who spoke on condition he not be identified referred to recent statements by U.S. President Ronald Reagan which he said appeared to favour Iraq and that promised continued assistance to the Saudis.

"One day this war will end. Where will those weapons go?" he said.

Yosef Belovich, a political analyst writing in the conservative daily Haaretz newspaper, said a recent shift in U.S. policy away from neutrality and towards Iraq and its allies is forcing Israeli "decision-makers to reassess their own policy."

Mr. Shamir asserted that Israel's policy was to "keep neutrality as much as possible" although Israel reportedly provided spare parts and arms to Iran's U.S.-equipped forces at the outset of the war. In June 1981, Israeli warplanes destroyed an Iraqi nuclear reactor near Baghdad.

Israel has made two recent ges-

tures to Iraq, including a guarantee relayed via the United States in mid-May that it would not attack an oil pipeline Iraq was planning to build to the Jordanian Red Sea port of Aqaba.

Mr. Shamir went a step further, publicly announcing in a newspaper interview and on the radio Saturday that he had offered Iraq use of an oil pipeline to the Mediterranean port of Haifa. Iraq rejected the proposal.

Mark Heller, a Gulf specialist at Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies, said in an interview: "I don't see any tilt toward Iraq but that could be the effect" of Israel's recent gestures.

He said Israel's main interest was that the 45-month-old war "continue inconclusively."

An end to the war could upset the Middle East balance of power and lead to Iraq's reconciliation with neighbouring Syria, which has supported Iran's war effort, said the military source.

"Syria could become more con-

fident and aggressive" towards Israel if border tensions between the two rival governments were ended, he said.

With no end in sight to the Gulf fighting, Mr. Heller said Israel's second key interest was "not to get in the way of the United States."

Mr. Shamir is facing national elections July 23 and has boasted repeatedly that one of the achievements of his Likud government has been an improvement of relations with the United States.

Israel-U.S. relations were soured after a bitter battle in 1981 over the U.S. sale of AWACS radar planes and advanced F-15 fighter aircraft to Saudi Arabia.

Despite Israel's ongoing objections to U.S. arms shipments to Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states, Mr. Heller said "there is no point in getting into a direct confrontation over the matter, especially since Israel is not likely to gain anything."

Labour Party leads according to latest Israeli poll

TEL AVIV (AP) — The opposition Labour Party could expect to win a general election by a small margin if the election were held now, according to a public opinion poll published on Sunday.

The poll, conducted by the Dahaf Research Organisation for the daily newspaper Yediot Aharonot, showed that Labour would win 52 seats in the 120-member Knesset, 12 seats more than the 40

forecast for Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud bloc.

Small parties expected to support Labour-led coalition a total of 64 seats.

Mr. Shamir's Likud-led coalition, which controlled 64 seats before elections were scheduled, would win 56 if the election were held now, the poll showed.

The poll was the first to be held since the lists for the July 23 gen-

eral election closed on May 31. Its findings are substantially the same as those of other polls published in the last month.

Poll Director Mina Zemach said in a telephone interview that the pollsters asked a sample of 1,187 Jewish voters "if elections took place today, for which party would you vote?"

She said 14 per cent of those polled replied that they had not

yet decided, and another 20 per cent replied that they were not certain of their choice. But the pollsters narrowed down the uncertainty by asking "undecided" more questions. She declined to say what these questions were.

Miss Zemach added that although Israeli Arab voters, who make up about 12 per cent of the electorate, were not polled, the forecast took into account their expected voting pattern.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
MAIN CHANNEL
18:00 Koran
18:30 Children Programme
19:00 Religious Programmes
19:30 Cookery Programme
20:00 Religious Programmes
20:30 Ramadan Puzzle
21:00 Arabic Series
21:30 Islamic Programme
22:00 Arabic Comedy
22:30 Programme Review
23:00 News in Arabic
23:30 Arabic Series
24:00 Local Programme
24:30 Studio "1984"
25:00 News in Arabic
25:30 Studio "84 Cont."
FOREIGN CHANNEL
18:00 French Programme
18:30 Bonjour bon Appétit
19:00 News in French
19:30 The Blue and the Grey
20:00 Science International
20:30 Comedy: Dr. Al Large
21:00 News in English
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Licences issued to import Egyptian goods

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism has started issuing import licences to merchants who have applied for them. The import licences relate to a number of Egyptian goods among which are sugar, honey, rice, chocolate and clothing. The decision by the ministry is in implementation of a trade protocol signed between Jordan and Egypt under which import licences are exempt from import fees.

Hashish smuggler gets hard labour

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Ahmad Hafez Al Khattab to 10 years in prison with hard labour and fined him JD 3,000 for the possession of and trafficking in hashish. The court also sentenced Nabil Baddawi to six months in jail and the payment of JD 10 for the abuse of his official position and the exploitation of it for his personal interest. The military governor has endorsed the sentences.

ACC loans to aid farmers

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) has decided to grant JD 92,000 in loans to farmers in various regions. These loans will finance the purchase of fodder, the planting of vegetables, the building of plastic green houses, the buying of livestock and farm implements and the installation of drip irrigation systems.

Spain to hold painting competition

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Culture and Youth has received a memo from the Arab-Spanish Institute for Culture and the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs announcing the institute's intention to hold a painting contest on Sept. 30 to honour the Spanish painters Pablo Picasso and Joan Miro. In the memo, the institute asked for the participation of Arab countries in this contest.

Press team return from France tour

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian press delegation has returned to Amman from Paris at the end of a week-long visit upon an invitation of Air France. The French airline organised a comprehensive programme of visits for the delegation which represented the Jordan Times, Al Ra'i and Al Dustour newspapers. The delegation, which was accompanied by a representative of Air France in Amman, toured the French Riviera, tourist and archaeological sites in Paris and the Air France workshops at Charles de Gaulle Airport.



Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Sharif Zaid (left) hosts dinner for Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat to an Iftar banquet at Al Hussein Youth City (Petra photo)

Sharif Zaid hosts dinner

AMMAN (Petra) — Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Saturday evening hosted an Iftar banquet at Al Hussein Youth City.

The banquet was attended by Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Ahmad 'Obeidat, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, a number of cabinet ministers, Upper and Lower Houses of parliament deputies, religious leaders, senior officers in the armed forces, the public security, intelligence and civil defence, as well as members of the diplomatic corps and military attaches accredited to Jordan.

Farmer killed in wild boar hunting tragedy

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 40-year-old man has been killed by mistake by one of his relatives in Al Souq village in the Ajloun District, according to a story published Sunday in the local Arabic daily newspaper Al Ra'i.

The death occurred Friday when the victim went to till his land and to look after his crops after taking his Iftar supper.

At the same time a man, aged 50, was walking among his crops to try to scare off wild boars, which had been destroying the crops in the area.

He saw a body moving on the neighbouring piece of land and, believing it to be a boar, opened

fire with a machine gun killing the farmer.

Ajloun District Prosecutor Ahmad Al Azzam, and Ajloun Police Director Musleh Mahadiné then started an investigation into the death.

Meanwhile, a driver aged 39 tried to evade responsibility for hitting two children, one aged three and the other aged seven, with his car when he carried them to the Baptist Hospital in Ajloun. He claimed that the children were knocked down by another driver.

Police authorities investigating the occurrence and discovered that the driver had in fact hit the children. They then referred the case to the court.

Martyr's Monument display commemorates Arab Revolt

Hussein attends ceremony marking Renaissance Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Sunday celebrated Renaissance Day in commemoration of the Great Arab Revolt led by Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali of Mecca, His Majesty King Hussein's great grandfather, against Ottoman rule.

Sunday also marked Army Day, an anniversary that used to be celebrated on May 25 together with Independence Day.

On the anniversary, His Majesty King Hussein attended a celebration held at the Martyr's Monument on the western outskirts of Amman.

Accompanied by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, King Hussein visited the monument and later watered the tree of life as the army brass band played a tattoo.

The King reviewed the guard of honour and later met the members of the monument's board of trustees.

The celebration, which was organised by the armed forces, was also attended by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat, the Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, and former armed forces commander-in-chief Field Marshal Habis Al Majali.

Earlier Sunday, King Hussein and Prince Hassan visited the tomb of the founder of the Kingdom, the late King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, and recited verses from the Holy Koran.

The King was also accompanied by his son Prince Faisal and the

son of Prince Mohammad, Prince Talal.

Aqaba rally

In Aqaba, a rally was held at the municipality park where several notables made speeches to commemorate the Great Arab Revolt and Army Day.

Speeches were made by the mayor of Aqaba, the director of the education department there and other officials.

The rally was attended by senior local officials.

Aqaba Sunday witnessed other activities and a sports competition and also to mark the anniversary the Royal Falcons presented an aerial display over the



Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali

city while a boat race was organised on the port.

In the city squares, several dabkes (national dances) were held and prizes and awards were presented by the Aqaba district governor to several competitors at a special ceremony that followed.

Firms to design water networks for villages

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Water Authority of Jordan has invited local and international consultancy firms to draw up preliminary designs and to conduct exploratory studies for building sewerage networks and wastewater treatment plants for Jordanian villages, according to Al Ra'i newspaper Sunday.

It said that the villages in question, which currently suffer from environmental problems, should,

in accordance with the 1979 general census in Jordan, have at least 2,500 inhabitants.

At least 60 villages are involved in the project, mainly in the Jordan Valley and the southern parts of the country, the report said.

The report expects these studies to take six months to be completed and puts early estimates as to the cost of the project at JD 25 million.

Suf Camp pilot project offers hope to handicapped refugees



AMMAN — Through a pilot project supported by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) and the British-based international charity Oxfam, some 30 mentally retarded refugees are finding new opportunities for greater integration and acceptance into the life of their community.

Since April 1983, they have been attending a day care centre in Suf Refugee Camp about 40 kilometres north of Amman. Here they participate in activities such as language development; learn to improve their personal hygiene and social skills; experience creative accomplishments through arts-and-crafts projects; and enjoy various recreational activities.

But these handicapped youngsters, between five and 18 years old, are not the only people involved in the Suf pilot project. Other participants include members of the disabled children's families, four project staff members, education and social welfare professionals serving as advisers, and camp residents helping as volunteers at the centre and acting as a community support group.

According to the project co-ordinator, Mr. Aziz Daoud, the family members and camp volunteers provide a vital element essential for success because one of the main objectives is to involve the community actively in the pilot project. Mr. Daoud says that such involvement can help ensure that the disabled become accepted by the community rather than remain a hidden and often neglected element.

Changing the attitudes of the community towards its handicapped members takes time, but Mr. Daoud already detects some progress in this regard.

"Before we started this project, the terms 'disabled' and 'handicapped' were practically unknown", he notes, "but now they are known by almost everyone in the camp. One of my main messages to camp residents is that we all have something to give to the disabled, even if it's only a smile."

While conducting the initial house-to-house survey to discover the handicapped people in Suf Camp, Mr. Daoud encountered

limbs. These activities have not been abandoned but it is hoped that the pilot project will eventually lead to a widespread programme reaching a greater number of individuals.

Mr. Ghislain Moureaux, an expert in the rehabilitation field, conducted a study in December 1979 and recommended that UNRWA should place more emphasis on community involvement in the rehabilitation of the disabled.

Suf Camp, a fairly isolated spot with about 10,000 residents, was chosen by UNRWA as the site for a pilot project aimed at putting this recommendation into practice. Despite estimates of modest project costs, it was clear that financing would be a major problem due to the agency's usual budgetary constraints. The principle of a joint venture with other agencies or institutions was therefore accepted, and approaches resulted in a positive response by Oxfam.

The agency and Oxfam both agreed that a feasibility report had to be prepared by an expert in the rehabilitation of disabled persons. Mr. and Mrs. Murray Culshaw, specialists in the vocational training of disabled persons in the Third World, were the designated experts and Oxfam funded a study mission by them in Jordan, West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Their report, made in summer 1981, concluded that: the Palestine refugee community would most probably respond positively to a project aimed at training and integrating disabled persons; considering the limited financial means available, a pilot project was the best way to start his educational campaign and Suf Camp was an appropriate location; and the initial phases of the project

Mr. Daoud reports that almost every day, between 10 and 15 camp residents come to the centre to volunteer their services and a number have given money and materials. He thinks that the community is realising that this project is "really their responsibility" and not the responsibility of the agencies which are supporting it.

During the International Year of Disabled Persons in 1981, UNRWA decided to assist in a programme aimed at the rehabilitation and integration of disabled Palestine refugees within a community context.

The programme's concept called for drawing the attention of the community to the specific problems of the handicapped, and making everyone aware of the fact that disabled persons can play an active role in society without necessarily involving major financial investments. Previously the activities of UNRWA on behalf of the disabled were mainly limited to the placement of a relatively small number of handicapped people in specialised institutions and in the procurement of prosthetic devices such as artificial

would be spread over a three-year period. A committee was formed in Dec. 1981 by the then Field Relief Services Officer in Jordan, Bernard Mossaz, to begin implementation of the project. The committee's first and perhaps most important task was the selection of a co-ordinator, whose personality and efforts would most likely determine the outcome of the project. After thorough interviews, the committee unanimously chose Aziz Daoud for the post. The 31-year-old Jordanian has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Cairo University and is working on a master's degree in psychology at the University of Jordan with a thesis on the integration of the disabled in the Jordanian economy.

For six years before his appointment as project co-ordinator in Feb. 1982, he had worked with various programmes for the disabled as an employee of the Ministry of Social Development. After Mr. Daoud was hired, he began an orientation, training and planning period that included a two-month visit to Britain to observe how communities were involved in the institutions and the rehabilitation process for the disabled.

By November 1982 he had completed a house-to-house survey in Suf Camp and identified 164 cases of all categories and all ages as being physically or mentally disabled. Of these, only 77 cases could be considered as in need of the project, since these had agreed to join, although he felt more were deserving. The remaining cases included persons already rehabilitated in one form or another, or children already in school but requiring medical treatment only. In Mr. Daoud's opinion, this number did not justify

running a project for Suf Camp alone so the co-ordinating committee authorised a survey in nearby Jerash Camp in the spring of 1983 with the prospect of eventually having the project serve both camps.

It was decided that at this stage the project could best begin its work by operating a day care centre for the younger persons identified as mentally retarded. For the second stage of the project to begin in 1984, it is hoped that services will be initiated for residents with visual, hearing and physical disabilities. Between 15 and 20 mentally retarded children have been attending the day care centre since it began operation in April 1983. To assist in the programme, two young women from Suf were employed as trainers. They received instructions for these positions from a Swedish organisation which has a centre for the severely handicapped in Sweith, and from the National Association for the



A mentally handicapped member of Suf Camp attends a language development class (UNRWA photo)

Mentally Handicapped in Amman.

Mr. Daoud notes that the Jordanian Government has given assistance and encouragement and is helping with the organisation of an independent group to provide administrative and executive authority for the project. Peter Holdaway, director of UNRWA's Department of Relief Services, calls the Suf pilot project extremely worthwhile. "It was realised from the beginning," says Mr. Holdaway, "that one of the major obstacles would be the overcoming of in-born prejudices and changing entrenched attitudes towards the disabled. We appear to be succeeding in this but it is still too early to be completely sure. However, one thing is sure even at this stage and that is that the quality of the lives of a few mentally disabled children has already been improved thanks to the co-operation of Oxfam and the dedication of everyone involved."

A donation of JD 600 has been made to the Young Women's Muslim Association for a wood-working lathe for the vocational training of Muslim children, while JD 500 has been given to the Franciscan Sisters on Jabel Hussein to buy an ultrasound scanner for use in their ante-natal clinic.

Three amounts of JD 300 have also been presented to the Home of Peace, run by the Sisters of Charity, to the School for the Deaf and Mentally Handicapped in Zarqa and to the Christian School for the Deaf in Salt.

Tawjihi examinations to begin on June 16

AMMAN (J.T.) — The second session of the General Secondary Certificate (Tawjihi) examinations starts in Amman on June 16 and nearly 47,785 students will take part in it, according to Dr. Ahmad Al Bashairah, director of examinations at the Ministry of Education.

He said that the ministry had made all the necessary arrangements for the examinations, which will be held at the same time throughout the East Bank.

As to the West Bank, at least 13,608 students are expected to sit for the Tawjihi exam, which is scheduled to start on June 13. Dr. Bashairah said.

The first session of the Tawjihi examinations was held in January 1984.

According to Dr. Bashairah, 95 students were found to have attempted to cheat in the first session and subsequently these students were denied the right to take the exams.

British community May Fair raises JD 3,800 for charity

AMMAN (J.T.) — The annual May Fair of the British Ladies of Amman (BLA) raised JD 3,800 for local charities, a BLA press release has said.

The committee of the BLA has decided to make this sum up to JD 4,000 and has distributed JD 1,000 apiece to the Friends of the St. John's Ophthalmic Hospital in Jerusalem and Suf Refugee Camp pilot project for mentally retarded children, supervised by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in Jordan.

A donation of JD 600 has been made to the Young Women's Muslim Association for a wood-working lathe for the vocational training of Muslim children, while JD 500 has been given to the Franciscan Sisters on Jabel Hussein to buy an ultrasound scanner for use in their ante-natal clinic.

Three amounts of JD 300 have also been presented to the Home of Peace, run by the Sisters of Charity, to the School for the Deaf and Mentally Handicapped in Zarqa and to the Christian School for the Deaf in Salt.

Regular support

In addition to the contributions to local charities made from the proceeds of the May Fair, the BLA is active in providing regular support to a number of Jordanian charities.

The money for this comes from monthly raffles at BLA meetings and from other activities. Current regular recipients are Al Hussein Society for the Physically Handicapped, the Franciscan Sisters, the Young Women's Muslim Association School for the Mentally Handicapped, the Christian School for the Deaf at Salt, the Ashrafiah Home for Elderly Ladies, the Cerebral Palsy Foundation, the Home of Peace, UNRWA, and needy families in Na'ur.

The BLA is an organisation open to nationals of the British Commonwealth and Ireland, and to British wives of Jordanian nationals. The president is the British ambassador's wife, Lady Urwick,

who gives support to and takes an interest in the work of the BLA.

The organisation is run by a chairwoman, currently Mrs. Pat Bailey, and by a committee of 12 chosen by vote from amongst the members. The vice-chairwoman, Mrs. Maureen Madden, has for two consecutive years been responsible.

The aims of the BLA are to: Promote social relations among the members of the British community; help newcomers to Jordan; learn about and understand Jordan and its people, and to contribute to welfare activities approved by the committee, the release said.

Traditional festival

Although in various parts of the world May 1 is celebrated as Labour Day, May Day to the British is a traditional festival dating back centuries.

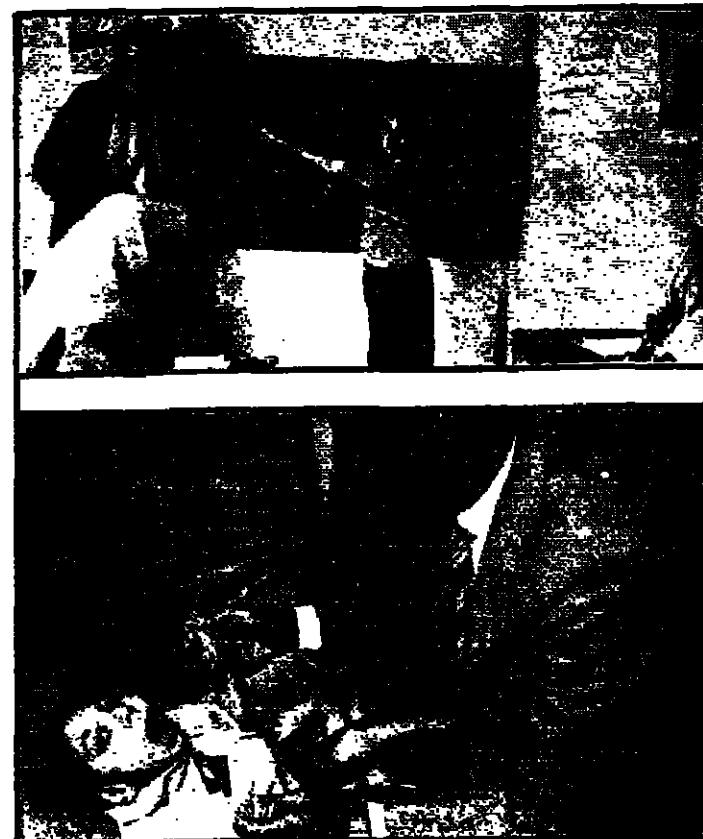
It is a day when villages all over Britain have celebrated with a May Fair to rejoice over the end of long winter days and the coming of spring.

The tradition is carried on in Amman by the BLA and May Day for them is the culmination of months of work, when the annual May Fair is held in the garden of the British ambassador's residence.

This fair has a traditional May Day theme and atmosphere and is an occasion for fun.

There are many varied activities, including games for all ages, stalls selling homemade foodstuffs and handicrafts, traditional dancing, a children's fancy dress competition and this year, as in previous years, pipers from the Scots Guards were flown in from Cyprus, by courtesy of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline.

This year the general fun was added to by the British ambassador, Sir Alan Urwick, taking his turn locked in the stocks and being pelted with wet sponges for a small fee, his "crime" having been to offer the use of his garden for a worthy cause.



Three scenes from the pilot project at Suf Refugee Camp which aims to help integrate handicapped refugees into the life of their community (UNRWA photos)



Resistance — The only answer in S. Lebanon

By Alistair Lyon
Reuters

SIDON, Lebanon. — Near a dusty road about in this port city lies the mass grave of some of the estimated 650 residents who were killed when Israeli forces swept into Southern Lebanon two years ago.

Within three days of the start of "operation peace for Galilee" on June 6, 1982, Israeli forces had taken Sidon after crushing the resistance of their outgunned Palestinian foes in an air, naval and ground bombardment.

Today, much of the devastation has been repaired, thanks largely to the philanthropic efforts of Sidon-born Saudi Arabian millionaire businessman Rafiq Hariri.

But Israeli troops remain. The effects of their presence have cri-

ppled the economy of this city of about 200,000 people and eroded the resilience of the inhabitants, who see no early end to their plight.

Last month Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens ruled out a withdrawal from Sidon to defence lines further south, saying such a move would not reduce casualties from daily guerrilla attacks faced by Israeli troops.

Taut-faced Israeli soldiers patrol the streets, alert for any sudden movement that might signal another machine-gun, grenade or bomb attack by local resistance fighters.

Civilians are sometimes killed or wounded when the Israelis or their allies in the mainly-Christian "South Lebanon Army" militia respond to attacks by spraying bullets around them.

As a result, traffic is thin on

main avenues where attacks are common. Activity in the once-bustling town tapers off in the afternoon and few people go out at night, when gunfire echoes through the deserted streets.

Israelis try to stir up sectarian hatred

Residents say much of the shooting is to intimidate them and they blame the Israelis and their local militia allies.

Sidon member of parliament Mr. Nazih Bizri told Reuters the Israelis were trying to stir up sectarian hatred by turning a blind eye to the activities of their Lebanese agents.

Mr. Bizri said the militias had kidnapped hundreds of townspeople and killed at least 75 since the invasion.

The militias included a "national guard" of 60 to 70 convicted criminals, he said. Two sections of the force operated in Sidon and a third in the nearby Palestinian refugee camp of Ain Al Hilweh, he added.

Mr. Bizri said the force terrorised residents, extorted money from shops and businesses and provoked Israeli security measures by opening fire or exploding grenades.

But an Israeli military spokesman said he knew of only one national guard unit, formed "with the blessing of the Israeli army to keep order in Ain Al Hilweh."

Mr. Bizri said "As an occupying power, Israel is responsible for our security. But we have none. We are victims of the Israelis and their agents."

But an Israeli spokesman, Captain Eytan Agmon, denied that Israel was an occupying force. He

said it had not replaced local government or the police whose job was to control crime.

"It is not the duty of the Israeli army to create order or avoid chaos in Lebanon," Captain Agmon said.

Economy nears collapse

Sidon's economy has been almost paralysed by the closure since February of all but one of its road links with the north. The single mountain route via the village of Bateh is ill-suited to commercial traffic.

Officials say the difficulty of getting Israeli permits to cross the Bateh "border" and long delays there have made it difficult to bring goods into Sidon and almost impossible to transport southern produce to Beirut.

"Business is very bad, down 50

per cent compared with the year before the invasion," said Mr. Ali Sheriff, president of the Sidon Merchants' Association.

Sidon Mayor Ahmad Kelash says industrial output is down 80 per cent and investment, services and construction are "Zero."

Unemployment is high, affecting labourers and professionals alike. One young man, who is qualified as a nurse and computer engineer, begged Mr. Kelash for help in his job hunt, saying otherwise he would seek manual work in a corner bakery.

Resistance must continue

Mr. Bizri is convinced Sidon must resist the occupation without provoking unnecessary confrontations with Israeli troops. "If we do not resist, the world will forget about us," he said.

How to respond?

THE PEACE Now demonstration in Tel Aviv a few days ago brought together an estimated 50,000 Israelis who protested against the two-year-old Israeli presence in Lebanon and Jewish extremism and terrorism in the West Bank. This is only the latest manifestation of a reasonable sentiment among a small number of Israelis, people who say they wish to coexist in peace alongside a Palestinian people that is granted the right to national self-determination.

It is interesting to note that the Peace Now activists decided to stay out of the electoral battle being waged by 27 different Israeli political groupings before the July 23 parliamentary elections. Peace Now wishes to remain a force above party politics, representing a cross-section of Israelis that may one day gather momentum and become a majority in the country. We hope so, but fear that day may be very far away.

While we have noted with interest the powerful response within Israeli society against the war in Lebanon, and have even recognised a certain spillover from the disenchantment with the Lebanon adventure into a greater understanding of the political wishes of the Palestinians in and outside the occupied territories, we have yet to see the Peace Now sentiment work its way into the Israeli political system. It must do this, if it hopes to have an impact on Israeli government policy.

The Peace Now people present something of a dilemma for the Arab World. Here are some fair Israelis expressing in public their desire to coexist in peace and on equal terms with the Palestinians. This is, we have always thought, precisely the goal that the Arabs have been aiming for in the past decade or so — a grudging recognition of the reality of Israel, in exchange for a reciprocal Israeli recognition of the Palestinian national reality. So what should we in the Arab World do about the Peace Now folks? Quietly applaud them? Publicly support them? Invite them to Morocco?

We don't have the answers, but we do feel the question should be more honestly addressed throughout the Arab World, particularly in those few Arab countries, like ours, in which a real measure of free public discussion can take place among reasonable people: How do we respond to Peace Now?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Lessons of the past

JORDAN SUNDAY celebrates the anniversary of the Great Arab Revolt and Army Day which has a great meaning to the people and their leader. This anniversary evokes memories of the past struggles and successes of the leaders of the great revolt for freedom and for Arab unity. It is an occasion to learn from past lessons and to achieve the unity which the Great Revolt sought to realise. This anniversary is a reminder to the people of the country to try to achieve the aspirations and the goals of the Great Arab Revolt, and embodies the hopes for the future. It is a call on every citizen in this society to show determination and to work diligently to achieve progress.

The anniversary reminds us of the importance of the armed forces, whose nucleus was formed during the great revolt in Mecca and which marched to liberate the Arabs and to unite their states. The anniversary should remind everyone that the army is here to protect the country's unity, sovereignty and independence and to help us carry out the principles and of the Great Arab Revolt.

On the Pan-Arab level, the anniversary reminds our citizens of the role that the leaders of this country are playing in building up Arab self-strength and in translating national slogans into action. It is also a reminder of what the leaders of the Great Arab Revolt and Jordan have been doing to promote the Palestinian cause in international circles.

Al Dustour: Holding to the course

THE ANNIVERSARY we are celebrating Sunday is one with both sublime meaning and noble goals. It reminds us of the struggle of Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali to liberate the Arabs and unify their states. It therefore embodies the aspirations of the Arab Nation as a whole and represents the dreams of true and patriotic Arabs who want to serve their nation. This anniversary reminds the people of Jordan of the relentless efforts which their leader King Hussein and his great grandfather have exerted towards serving their nation and fulfilling their aspirations of freedom, independence and unity.

The anniversary also marks Army Day, a time that brings to mind the endeavours of our armed forces in safeguarding peace and stability in the country and protecting its independence and land. The nucleus of this army was formed by the leaders of the Great Arab Revolt as they marched out of Mecca to fulfil a noble mission. The army made sacrifices in the early years of the revolution and has continued to offer sacrifices up until the present day. It fought in Palestine and extended support and assistance to Syria and other Arab states.

Sawt Al Shaab: Ideals of revolt march on

SHARIF HUSSEIN Ibn Ali is remembered on this day, the anniversary of the Great Arab Revolt which he led from Mecca in 1916. He is remembered as a leader of the Arabs in the Arabian Peninsula who marched at the head of his army northwards to liberate Jordan, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq and other parts of the Arab World. Sharif Hussein, notwithstanding the conspiracies against his revolt by the allied powers who had secretly arranged to divide the Arab World after the First World War, pursued the goal achieving the Arab Nation's aspirations.

This anniversary reminds us of the principles on which the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan was established and which were derived from the ideals of the Great Arab Revolt. Prince Abdullah, son of the late Sharif Hussein, laid the foundations of this country by adopting the policies of the Great Revolt and in building up the army whose nucleus was formed under his late father. The relentless struggle which had characterised Sharif Hussein's life continued under Prince Abdullah and the objectives which Sharif Hussein had sought to achieve were pursued under his successors until the present day.

King Hussein, who inherited the principles of the revolt and the army built by his fathers and grandfathers, is continuing to carry the torch of freedom for all Arabs. He is firmly committed to the principles of the Great Arab Revolt and is working relentlessly to build a strong army with which to liberate the occupied Arab lands and fulfil the aspirations of his predecessors.



Gandhi gains Hindu support

By Mark O'Neill
Reuters

NEW DELHI — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has alienated India's Sikh community but increased her support among India's 577 million Hindus after ordering troops to storm Amritsar's Golden Temple, the Sikh religion's holiest shrine.

Political analysts said the strong tactics used by Mrs. Gandhi were likely to prove popular with Hindu voters, especially those in the northern Hindi-speaking belt which contributes 262 of the 544 seats in the lower house of parliament.

Before the attack, Mrs. Gandhi was strongly criticised in the Indian press for indecision in dealing with Sikh extremist attacks in which more than 300 people died during the previous six months.

But commentators said the communal crisis affecting the nation was far from over and stressed the need for a political solution before Sikh extremist violence could be finally ended and a violent backlash curbed.

At least 20 people have died so far as angry Sikhs clashed with police in several towns in protest against the Amritsar fighting.

Police sources said at least 500 people died in the Amritsar battle. The official figure is 298.

"The attack amounts to a desecration and it has isolated the

Sikh community in India," said Mr. Khushwant Singh, a prominent Sikh historian and member of the upper house of parliament.

In protest at the attack, Mr. Singh Friday gave back a high civilian award to Indian President Zail Singh, also a Sikh.

But opposition parties and most newspapers have guardedly welcomed the attack.

Mrs. Gandhi has said she was grieved at what she called the army's unavoidable move.

The Indian leader must call parliamentary elections by January next year when her term of office ends.

Among her party's electoral themes is the countering of what it calls threats from home and abroad to destabilise India.

Mr. Krishan Lal Sharma, secretary of the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party, told Reuters heavy weapons found by the army in the Golden Temple complex after the battle demonstrated the threat posed by the extremists to national unity.

"The army had to go in. Mrs. Gandhi should explain to the nation why it was not done earlier," he said.

"We intend to make law and order one of our election issues," Mr. Sharma said. "Gandhi has failed not only in Punjab but in many other parts of India."

Mr. Syed Shahabuddin, a Muslim and general secretary of the Janata Party which ruled India from 1977 to 1980, told Reuters terrorist activities had reached such a pitch troops had had to be used.

However he accused Mrs. Gandhi of exploiting the situation for political ends.

"The suffering of the Punjab people has been prolonged to create a fear complex in the Hindu voter, to ensure their support in the coming election," he said.

While Mrs. Gandhi had taken firm action to deal with the Punjab situation militarily, he said, she still needed a solution to Sikh political demands.

"This can only be done through negotiations with legitimate leaders of the Sikh community," he added.

At a news conference after the temple battle, a government spokesman said talks over demands for greater political autonomy for Punjab, where most of India's 12 million Sikhs live, could not be held in the current atmosphere.

One of Mrs. Gandhi's staunchest supporters, Mr. R.J. Bajpai, general secretary of the Congress (I), told Reuters:

"You can only negotiate with political people, not with gunmen. Now we have eliminated the headquarters of the terrorists, who had overcome the politicians, so



Indira Gandhi

we can get back to talking."

Mrs. Gandhi said in a nationwide broadcast last weekend the government had accepted all the religious demands of the main Sikh party, the Akali Dal, and was prepared to hold discussions with it to find a solution to its other demands.

"No government can allow violence and terrorism any premium in the settlement of issues," she said.

Fears were expressed, however, that what one newspaper called the army's exorcism of a communal evil would defile the headquarters of the terrorists, who had overcome the politicians, so

Hart still determined to win the presidency

By Rodney Pinder
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Despite victory claims by Mr. Walter Mondale, Senator Gary Hart has begun a renewed effort to carry forward his unflagging ambition to win the Democratic Party's nomination for president.

Ex-vice president Mondale appears to have more than enough delegates to guarantee him the nomination at the party's national convention next month.

But Mr. Hart has returned to Washington to begin lobbying opinion molders and doubtful Mr. Mondale backers for their support.

Mr. Hart has been in high spirits since what he calls his "spectacular ... prodigious ... historic" victory over Mr. Mondale in the California primary last week.

Dressed casually in blue jeans, he joked with reporters aboard his campaign jet en route back to Washington, and snacked on champagne and caviar.

The key word in Mr. Hart's lobbying for the convention is "electability".

He and his aides say they have won bigger and broader support in the primaries than front-running Mr. Mondale, even though the former vice-president has more delegates behind him for the decisive convention.

The Hart team insists the long primary campaign, which ended in California, has shown Mr. Mondale to be fatally flawed — starting as overwhelming favourite yet unable to knock out Mr. Hart, an unknown before he won the New Hampshire vote last February.

"If Mr. Mondale couldn't knock out Mr. Hart last week he can't do it at all," said Hart campaign chairman Mr. Oliver Henkel. "We're now buying time to tell out story of how strong Mr. Hart is, to prove his greater electability."

A new twist to the party rules could help Mr. Hart.

This year, convention delegates are not required to vote for their candidate on the first ballot.

Mr. David Mixner, another senior Hart adviser, predicted the senator would thwart Mr. Mon-

dale's effort to be nominated on the first ballot at the San Francisco convention.

"It's now hand-to-hand combat for delegates. We will be solidifying our base and persuading the uncommitted and the soft Mondale supporters," said Hart press secretary Ms. Kathy Bushkin.

Although Mr. Mondale insists he has already more than the 1,967 delegates required for victory — more than half the total at the convention — Mr. Hart's people say they counted only 1,895 for Mr. Mondale after last week California voting, with 1,395 for their man.

But even if Mr. Mondale were over the top, the Hart campaign believes his best possible margin could only be 100 or 200 delegates.

"Mr. Mondale needed a safety margin of 400 or 500 and California denied him," said Mr. Mixner. "One of the easiest things to do with the right breaks is to switch 100 delegates on the convention floor."

Hart adviser Mr. Frank Manikiewicz, a veteran campaigner, declared: "It's possible for enough delegates to be won over. I think it can be done."

The campaign goes on, but it has now taken on a different character.

Instead of nationwide tours aimed at capturing media attention and public votes, Mr. Hart will now plead his cause for "new ideas," reform of the Democratic Party in the 1980s and his "electability" mainly before party professionals.

Hart aides acknowledge they face an uphill struggle but insist they are committed to a knock-down, drag-out battle at the convention.

Those who urge Mr. Hart to quit and back Mr. Mondale for the sake of party unity in the face of the Reagan threat are dismissed by Hart aides simply as Mondale supporters.

Ms. Bushkin said the Hart people were prepared to listen to those urging the senator to quit but she added:

"We have as much right as Mr. Mondale to go all the way."

Alfonsin hopes Spain visit will boost his political image

By John Reichertz
Reuters

BUENOS AIRES — Argentina's President Raul Alfonsin, still struggling to forge a political power base for his problem-plagued government, goes to Spain this week on his first visit outside Latin America since taking office.

The 57-year-old Mr. Alfonsin, who is being watched closely by bankers as he grapples uncertainly with the country's foreign debt crisis, leaves Buenos Aires on Sunday, six months after assuming power from an unpopular military government.

He is counting on a warm welcome from the Spanish Socialist government to show people at home that he has restored world respect for the country through his efforts to root out human rights excesses and tackle economic and other problems.

Mr. Alfonsin will be accorded the rare privilege of addressing a joint session of both houses of the Spanish Cortes (Parliament).

During his four-day visit he will meet Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and King Juan Carlos as well as visiting four Spanish cities and his ancestral home town in the Galicia region.

In venturing onto the world stage, Mr. Alfonsin is trying to bolster an image that has relied on his personal popularity, reinforced by almost daily public appearances like those that led to his sweeping electoral victory last October.

The son of a Spanish immigrant shopkeeper from the small town of Chascomus, 120 kilometres south of Buenos Aires, Mr. Alfonsin has been voicing the need for broad international economic reforms, particularly to ease the huge burden of the debts run up by the previous government.

He has warned that Argentina's ability to meet its payments could be overwhelmed by rises in world interest rates that were threatening social peace. But he has also emphasised Argentina's willingness to meet its obligations.

So far Mr. Alfonsin has used a hodge-podge of improvisations to cope with a 522 per cent inflation rate, \$43.6 billion foreign debt and widespread economic disorder inherited from the military government.

The labour-based opposition Peronist Party has forced him to proceed cautiously by protesting harshly against any austerity measures affecting workers.

But the nation's creditors, having granted the new government a six-month grace period to get its house in order, want a coherent economic programme in return for allowing Argentina back into international credit markets.

Government officials say Argentina is in the final stages of preparing a letter of intent outlining its economic goals, to be submitted to the International Monetary Fund (IMF). It will then ask for disbursement of around \$3.5 billion from the IMF.

It is not yet clear how the Argentine programme will reconcile the demands by bankers for austerity and Mr. Alfonsin's campaign pledge to spark an economic recovery.

Mr. Alfonsin has decided that if he signs a letter of intent it will be something he can carry out," Mr. Enrique Szewach, of the Foundation for Latin American Economic Investigations, said.

Mr. Alfonsin's prime concern, however, has been to reach a consensus on the debt issue with the Peronist opposition through talks with opposition leader Mrs. Maria Estela Peron, who recently returned from self-exile in Spain at the president's invitation.

Mrs. Peron, a former president and widow of Juan Peron, founder of the Peronist movement, bluntly told Mr. Alfonsin at their first meeting: "You are in charge", and pledged opposition support.

But the former president's virtual promise of blind allegiance provoked a storm of protest in the Peronist Party, placing in doubt the outcome of the effort to get a consensus.

Only two weeks after the meeting Peronist labour leader Mr. Saul Ubaldini blasted government efforts to keep the lid on wage rises as "an undeserved and intolerable joke" proving that the government had bowed to the will of the IMF.

He urged corrective measures before irreparable damage was done.

Mr. Alfonsin's attitude to the



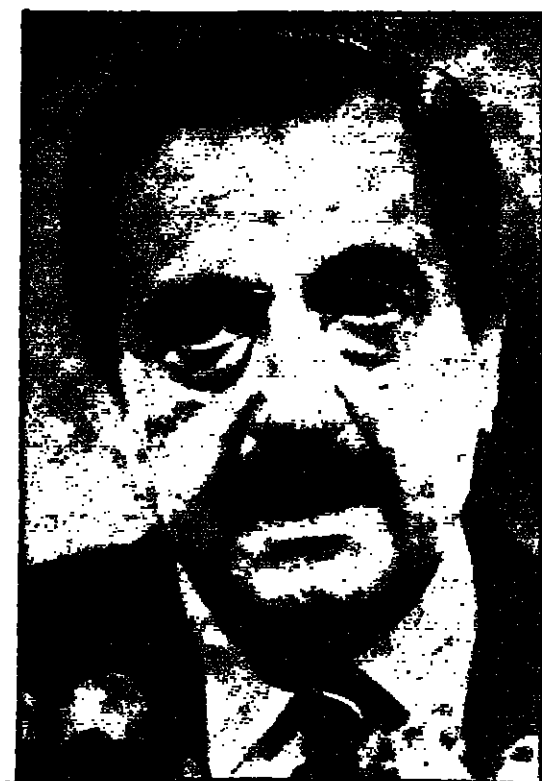
Maria Estela Peron

debt problem is likely to have a crucial bearing in determining how far the continent's debtor nations will go in seeking better terms for the repayment of the region's \$340 billion foreign debt.

He was one of four Latin American presidents who recently issued a vigorous statement calling for a meeting of debtors which may be held soon on the issue.

Mr. Alfonsin swept to his electoral victory primarily on the strength of his scathing attacks on the human rights record of the military government, which left up to 30,000 Argentines missing as a result of their "dirty war" against guerrillas.

While Mr. Alfonsin has restored the role of law, human rights groups and leftist politicians have criticised his failure to bring the former military chiefs to justice.



Raul Alfonsin

The president ordered the supreme military tribunal to try the first nine military junta members and a former provincial police chief for violations of human rights during military rule. But the cases are at preliminary stages and no military officers have been found guilty in any human rights case.

Mr. Alfonsin is expected to get a high-profile official reception when he arrives in Madrid. Support for the restoration of democracy in Latin America and strong ties with the countries of what Spain calls "Ibero-America"

are key elements in the Socialist government's foreign policy.

Besides former colonial ties, relations between the two countries have been very close for the past century.

Almost half the Argentine population descends from Spanish immigrants.

Argentina was one of the main refuge countries for the republicans defeated in the 1936-39 civil war, while tens of thousands of Argentines took shelter in Spain during the former military regime's "dirty war" against its opponents.

سنة ١٤٠٥ هـ

Malaysia's Indians seek bigger share of the cake

Malaysia's Indian community, alarmed at its declining economic status, has formed a new investment company to boost its holdings in the country's corporate sector, writes Wong Salong.

KUALA LUMPUR—Malaysia's population is becoming steadily alarmed at the steady decline of its economic status, as the country's other two groups, the Malays and the Chinese, benefit from the government's new economic policy.

As the policy was launched some 10 years ago, the Malays, who are the dominant group, held only 4.3 per cent of the country's population (publicly listed assets), the Chinese 31.7 per cent and the Indians one per cent and 63 per cent.

The government wanted to increase the Malays' stake to at least 30 per cent by 1990, with non-

Malay Malaysians owning 40 per cent and foreigners the remaining 30 per cent.

By last year, with enormous government assistance, Malay ownership had risen to 22 per cent of a greatly expanded corporate sector worth M\$65 billion (\$28 billion).

The foreign stake had fallen to just under 30 per cent and the remaining 48 per cent was classified as being held by "other Malaysians residents."

The Indians, who form 8.5 per cent of Malaysia's population of 15 million and whose share of the wealth has changed little over 20 years, were furious at being lump-

ped together with the aggressive Chinese and the nominee companies under the category of "other Malaysians residents."

Their leader, the blunt-talking Mr. Samy Vellu, president of the Malaysian Indian Congress and the only Indian minister, won government agreement to classify Indian corporate ownership under a distinct category in the next Malaysia plan, starting in 1986.

He feels that the Indian corporate share should reflect the community's population percentage, but to achieve this would require an investment of several billion Malaysian dollars, a near impossible task.

To make a start, however, the congress is campaigning to collect M\$50 million to fund an investment company it has set up called Maika Holdings.

Each of the congress's 720 branches is being asked to raise M\$50,000 from its members, and 10,000 Indian professionals and businessmen are being urged to invest at least M\$1,000 each.

Mr. Samy Vellu is impressed by the success of a similar company set up by the Malaysian Chinese Association, which together with the Malaysian Indian Congress and the Malay Umno Party rules in the government coalition.

From a start-up fund of M\$30 million the Chinese company, Multi Purpose Holdings, has grown to be one of the top ten Malaysian corporations within eight years.

It now has a paid-up capital of M\$380 million and net assets exceeding M\$2 billion.

Maika Holdings is to be headed by Mr. Tan Sri Selvarajah, a lawyer and the chairman of UMW, the diversified heavy equipment and car distributor. He is well regarded by Dr. Mohammed Mahathir, the prime minister, who is sympathetic to the Indian community's complaints.

Maika has singled out several projects for investment.

It has been offered a 10 per cent stake in Malaysia's first private television company, recently launched by Fleet Holdings, and may become the third partner with the Malay and Chinese investment companies who have teamed up to develop two townships outside Kuala Lumpur.

Other areas for investment are the plantations, insurance and banking business. Maika is believed to be interested in taking a strategic stake in the United Asian Bank, currently the country's fifth largest bank.

But the Indians have already lost perhaps their best opportunity — to buy into the plantations they had been working on for the past 100 years.

Since independence in 1957, British and other foreign owners have steadily put their estates on the market. They have been quickly snapped up, first by the Chi-

nese and later by the Malaysian government acting on behalf of the Malays.

As late as 1970, rubber estates were selling for a few hundred Malaysian dollars an acre. Now, rubber land costs up to M\$5,000 an acre and palm oil land fetches as much as M\$10,000.

Multi Purpose Holdings, the Chinese group, has built up investments in 94,000 acres of plantations over the past five years.

The economic backwardness of the Indian community has been caused partly by government neglect, partly by the tendency for the Indians to be squeezed out in any Malay-Chinese deal, and partly by the apathy of the community itself.

Malaysian Indians are still divided by caste and region; for example, only a Tamil can hope to lead the Malaysian Indian Congress.

While increasing numbers of Chinese businesses are abandoning their traditional family-controlled operations, the Indian businessman has been very much a loner. But the evidence of decline may now mean that his deep distrust of partnerships and limited companies will not be so hard to shift. — Financial Times news features.

Randa Habib's Corner

Those last days, I think I am dreaming

WHEN I PASS in the streets of Amman and see the garbagemen in their orange uniforms sweeping the streets and collecting the rubbish, I think I'm dreaming.

When I see a distinguished visitor and when I realise that those repairs are not for the visit of a head of state I tell myself "I must be dreaming".

When I see a hole in the street one day and the next day I see workers repairing it, I pinch myself to make sure that I am not dreaming.

When I see the islands decorated with beautiful flowers while they have been for a long time an impersonal piece of stone I like my dream.

When I have to change my way because such a street is being asphalted just for maintenance and to keep our streets in good shape, I tell myself it is nice to dream.

When from my window I see a gardener from the municipality turning the soil of the streets planted on the edge of the road and cutting the branches, I dream...

But when I think that all what I have dreamt has actually been "seen" by friends and acquaintances who during their parties talk about it surprised and admiring, I realise that my dream has come true.

Sometimes it is happening, something is changing. Our city is being cleaned, it is planted with flowers.

God, please don't let me wake up.

Recreating Orwell's vision — in '84

By Peter Conrad

IDAHO — A young British director is putting the finishing touches to what he hopes will be a final and definitive film version of George Orwell's "1984".

Michael Radford's "1984" is the first attempt at filming the novel of "big brother", "newspeak" and "the thought police".

Radford made a film of the book in 1955 and innumerable television versions followed over the world.

At its makers insist that this is not a remake but a new vision of the book, currently being shot among narrow streets and deserted corners of London's working-class East End district, at last representing a genuine attempt to recreate Orwell's chilling vision of a totalitarian future.

What we want to do is Orwell's "84", a film that is faithful to the book in its setting and perspective. Producer Simon Perry says.

He said the result, which recast his international premiere in London on Sep. 14, should please those devotees of the book who objected to the first film's "novel quality" and Orwell's "eerie" which has jealously guarded the rights to the book since 1950.

Radford said the book for release in 1984 might seem too good a

commercial opportunity to miss, but Mr. Perry said the project almost did not come off.

"Since the mid-1960s when the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) did a second television version of the book, Orwell's widow, Sonia, withdrew all screen versions and swore she wouldn't allow another film to be made," he said.

But a few days before her death in 1980 she suddenly changed her mind — thanks to Chicago lawyer and entrepreneur Marvin Rosenblum who succeeded in convincing her he wanted to make a film that would do justice to her husband's work.

Even then Sonia Orwell parted with the film rights only on certain conditions, stressing particularly that she did not want the film's theme to be lost in a mass of special effects.

"She cited two films that she did not want '1984' to look like. Kubrick's '2001' and 'Star Wars', although she had probably not seen either," Perry said.

But he and Radford, who were drawn to "1984" as late as October last year, did not agree with several U.S. directors also interested in the project that the book's only hope of commercial success was a "futuristic, high-tech" film.

"We decided the way to make it distinctive, perhaps to make a cla-

ssic, was to keep faith with Orwell's vision," Mr. Perry said.

Radford said the look of the film will owe much more to the Britain of the 1940s, when the book was written, than to 1984.

"We're doing it as if it is a science fiction story written in the period," he said. "It's as if the world had gone off at a tangent and '1984' is a parallel world to our own."

Creating that parallel world has been an enormous task.

Everything has been conceived from scratch, from the giant telescreens which relay propaganda to the watching crowds down to the bottles of "victory gin" which form the backdrop to life in the Empire of Oceania of which "Airstrip One", Orwell's Britain, is a part.

The task has been made all the more difficult by the speed with which everything has had to be done.

With the decision to make the film not finalised until last November, the film-makers had only a short time to turn Radford's rapidly written screenplay into a major feature film for release in 1984.

"It needs very careful planning and we have a granite schedule," Mr. Perry said. "If we skip a week it's a problem."

A major task was casting Oceania's leader, "big brother",

whose image pervades the film, starting out from posters and telescreens on every wall of crumbling, war-torn airstrip one.

After failing to find an actor through normal channels an appeal was launched in the Guardian newspaper. It brought photos from hundreds of hopefuls and at last a man, who with the addition of a little hair and a moustache, seemed to possess the qualities of the firm, yet fraternal leader.

John Hurt, nominated for an Oscar for "Midnight Express", was chosen to play down-trodden hero Winston Smith, whose love affair with a beautiful young party activist leads to rebellion against the all-powerful party and eventual liquidation.

"1984" is not a prediction for the future, but according to Radford, "A metaphor of the universal theme of a man's struggle for freedom against a society that seeks to control him."

There is a danger the film could meet an audience long tired of Orwell and "1984". But Mr. Perry thinks a premiere late in the year could be an advantage.

"Many people have said we should have opened on first January 1984. That is O.K. except that the beginning of the year was marked with such a barrage of Orwellians that within weeks people were bored with it," he said.

Japanese dream of living space

By Linda Siegel

TOKYO — To ordinary Japanese people, the idea of a spacious, home in which to enjoy their wealth is still a distant dream.

The reality is cramped apartments, high rents and weary hours of commuting. And it does nothing to ease the discomfort, to realise that workers in less successful industrial countries enjoy better living conditions.

A middle-level executive in Japan sometimes lives in quarters that might be spurned by a blue-collar worker in the United States or Europe.

Mr. Katsunori Otaka, a business and urban development official, told Reuters: "We are far behind other advanced industrialised countries in our housing conditions."

Although comparisons are difficult, official statistics show the average Japanese home measures

about 90 square metres or about a third less than in the United States.

But critics say the Japanese figures are distorted by more spacious homes in the countryside and do not reflect the real conditions in the cities.

"The Japanese don't live in rabbit hutches," Kobe University Professor Kazuo Hayakawa said, referring to a well-publicised comment by a European Community official a few years back. "They live in rat holes."

Finch toilets lacked

Size is not the only problem. Over half the homes in Japan lacked flush toilets as recently as five years ago, though the major cities like Tokyo are better served.

Construction ministry officials charged with formulating government housing policy say that at least the housing shortages of the past are over. Housing units now outnumber households, though,

they admit that is no guarantee of quality.

About 18 per cent of housing units surveyed five years ago did not meet minimum government standards and almost 60 per cent were below average standards. Of those below the minimum, about two-thirds were in major cities.

Most Japanese would like to solve their housing woes by buying a home. High economic growth swelled the ranks of homeowners to 60 per cent in 1980, a figure surpassed only by the United States.

But a widening gap between home costs and what people can afford in recent years is holding back many would-be buyers, senior construction ministry official Mr. Takashi Nemoto told Reuters.

In 1982, an average urban worker using savings and government and private loans could raise only 75 per cent of the funds needed to buy an apartment, and only 59 per cent of the cost of a single family

dwelling, government figures showed.

"Many people are giving up the dream of owning a home," a construction ministry report said last year.

For those who do manage to borrow the money, the burden of paying it back is getting heavier, and more people are delaying repayments or reneging on them.

"Some people choose family suicide, robbery, even murder, to escape this mortgage hell," Kobe University's Mr. Hayakawa said.

In a country where 90 per cent of the population of 117 million is crowded into 30 per cent of the total land area, pressure on land prices is inevitable.

The population per square kilometre of habitable land in Japan was 1,452 in 1980 compared with 386 in West Germany, 357 in Britain and 55 in the United States.

Land prices in parts of central Tokyo have risen by 50 to 100 per cent in the last year, although less steeply nationally.

Study reveals cure for baldness

By Jeff Franks

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (R) — centuries man has been seeking a cure for that most visible of afflictions — Baldness.

Now, completely by accident, researchers believe they have found on a treatment which, riding on an initial study, may be hair growth in cases of baldness.

The University of Texas Health Science Centre at San Antonio reports that a year-long study into baldness, a potent drug used to high blood pressure, has a remarkable side-effect — It tends to promote the growth of hair.

Richard De Vilz, assistant professor of dermatology, said the study showed that 50 per cent of volunteers tested experienced total or partial recovery of their hair.

Minoxidil, which is the active ingredient of the drug at 20 medical

centres around the country after patients who had taken it for high blood pressure noticed unusually prolific growth of their body hair.

Dr. De Vilz tested the drug on 56 volunteers. Twelve enjoyed almost complete recovery of their hair while another 16 showed noticeable improvement. "Their hair looked thin, but not as thin as before," he said.

The other 28 men, most of whom had been bald for 10 years or more, grew nothing at all or just a little fuzz.

"It appears the shorter the time of baldness, the better the chances of hair recovery," Dr. De Vilz said.

He applied Minoxidil to the scalps of the volunteers twice a day for a year. It took about four months for the hair to begin sprouting and six months before the volunteers noticed the difference, Dr. De Vilz said.

The hair produced by the applications looked normal and grew at a normal rate, he added.

The study showed that the longer the drug was applied, the greater the improvement, Dr. De Vilz said, adding that some men who had continued the treatment had made considerable progress.

"Their hair is growing longer and getting thicker all the time," he said.

Conversely, men who dropped out of the experiment found that their new hair quickly fell out, leaving them in their original state of baldness about three months later, Dr. De Vilz said.

Many of those who withdrew from the programme were now clamouring to get back in, he added.

Dr. De Vilz said it was clear that Minoxidil restored hair in some cases, but exactly how it worked was a mystery.

"Perhaps it stimulates sleeping hair bulbs by providing them with an increased supply of blood by dilating vessels near the follicles," he speculated. "Or maybe it blocks hair bulb sensitivity to the

balding effect of the male hormone, Testosterone."

"There are lots of theories, but no one really knows," Dr. De Vilz said very bald people, or those who had been bald for a long time, could not expect a major benefit from the treatment.

"The shorter the duration of baldness and the smaller the bald area, the better the results," he said.

Dr. De Vilz suggested that Minoxidil might be most effective if applied at the first signs of balding, as his study showed it "may be a better preventer than a restorer."

A spokesman for Upjohn's said the company had no comment on the studies, explaining that most were still under way and would not be completed until the summer.

Even if Upjohn decides to market the drug as a cure for baldness it must first secure the approval of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and the spokesman estimated this could take three or four years.

Portugal eyes on wealthy tourists

By Clare Loewell

LISBON — Portugal is looking to affluent foreigners who enjoy a touch of luxury and perhaps a round of golf to help the country out of its economic gloom.

Sunshine, a 900-kilometre coastline and sandy beaches have made tourism Portugal's leading industry, earning \$1,800 million last year.

With a \$14 billion foreign debt, a large balance of payments deficit, rising unemployment and 30 per cent inflation, Portugal badly needs tourism's profits.

The government's tough austerity programme, designed to heal the economy, is cutting sharply into the Portuguese pocket, but has worked strongly in the foreign visitor's favour.

A 10 per cent devaluation last summer and continuing depreciation of the escudo made Portugal a cheap holiday spot and

while most European resort countries saw a drop in visitors, the numbers coming to Portugal rose about eight per cent.

But Portugal, the poorest country in Western Europe, cannot handle large numbers of package tourists like its larger, more developed neighbour, Spain.

"Our structures — roads, energy and water supplies — would not be able to cope with such quantity," Mr. Joaquim Ferreira Do Amaral, secretary of state for tourism, told Reuters.

After four years of drought, water shortages and cuts, especially in the dry south, Portugal is particularly sensitive about water.

"An American uses six times as much water as a Portuguese," Mr. Ferreira Do Amaral said.

The strain on services, linked to a desire not to completely spoil the coastline with buildings, has led the tourism authorities to try to develop higher income holidays.

"Portugal is moving naturally towards the option of quality rather than quantity tourism because there is a limit on quantity," Mr. Ferreira Do Amaral said.

Lisbon is planning two new five-star hotels, but it is in the Algarve holiday region that the biggest efforts are being made to lure the affluent.

The quality projects reject hotels in favour of low density apartments and are trying to encourage people to buy holiday homes so that they will spend more time — and money — in Portugal.

The directors of one such project, the 680-hectare Quinta Do Lago near Faro, say Portugal can potentially earn more money from visitors who stay longer, are freer in their movements and perhaps put down roots, than from two-week package holiday-makers who buy only a few drinks and souvenirs.

Prices for Quinta Do Lago's

carefully spaced houses set in wooded grounds along the sea start at about 12 million escudos (\$90,000), well out of reach of all but a few Portuguese.

The project's big selling point is its golf courses. Thousands of golf enthusiasts go to the Algarve every year because good weather is almost guaranteed.

The Portuguese tourist board recently launched a new advertising project "Sportugal" aimed at encouraging the more athletic holiday-maker and exploiting the Western fitness fad.

Most new complexes in the Algarve have tennis courts, which are rare in other parts of the country, swimming pools and even gymnasiums and athletic tracks.

Apart from the Spanish, many of whom visit on daytrips only, the English are Portugal's most numerous visitors with a long tradition of buying second homes or retiring in the Algarve zone.

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Lendl throws off loser's tag, clinches French Open crown

PARIS (R) — Ivan Lendl ripped off the tag of eternal runner-up when he won the French Open men's singles title here Sunday with a magnificent comeback against top seed John McEnroe.

Lendl, beaten in all his four previous Grand Slam tournament finals, had looked destined to finish second best again but recovered brilliantly to win the final 3-6, 2-6, 6-4, 7-5, 7-5.

The 24-year-old Czechoslovak raised his arms and punched the air in triumph as Wimbledon Champion McEnroe hit his last shot into the tramlines to concede a match which had been his for the taking.

Lendl's revival ruined McEnroe's hopes of becoming the first American to win the French Open title since Tony Trabert in 1955. The match ran to 51 games, 10

more than the longest previous final since the introduction of the tie-break — the 1974 win of Sweden's Bjorn Borg over Manuel Orantes of Spain — and, at four hours eight minutes, fell just 14 minutes short of the longest in time — the 1982 final in which Mats Wilander of Sweden became the youngest Grand Slam tournament winner.

Martina Navratilova completed a unique twin sweep of Grand Slam singles and doubles titles when she and fellow-American Pam Shriver won the women's doubles final at the French Open tennis championships here Sunday.

The number one seeds defeated the untried partnership of West

German Claudia Kohde and Czechoslovakia's Hana Mandlikova 5-7, 6-3, 6-2 to add the French crown to the Wimbledon, U.S. and Australian titles already in their possession.

American Louise Brough and Brazilian Maria Bueno each separately held a share of all four major doubles titles simultaneously, but neither had the same partner throughout.

Navratilova, who completed her singles sweep Saturday by beating defending champion Chris Evert Lloyd 6-3, 6-1 in the final, said the doubles success was especially pleasing. "It's that much more satisfying to do it as a team," she said.

With so much at stake, Navratilova and Shriver did not settle easily into their game and Kohde and Mandlikova, the sixth seeds, looked the more harmonious pairing in the early stages, even though they had never played together before.

Navratilova, with nonchalance and understatement, said she felt "a bit bad" at having completed a second Grand Slam sweep in two days.

"You really don't expect to do both of them," she said. "It's that much more satisfying to do it as a team. It takes two. We help each other. We talk to each other and that is how we have done so well. We have a good partnership."

Shriver, who has not played singles for two months, said: "I knew that the only really dangerous match would be today's."

Hingsen confident after breaking decathlon record

MANNHEIM, West Germany (R) — West German Juergen Hingsen's first thought after he broke his own world decathlon record here Saturday was for Daley Thompson, his British arch-rival.

"Daley can't affect me any more," confident Hingsen told reporters after scoring 8,798 points in the two-day West German qualifying championship for this summer's Olympic Games. "I'm immune to his tricks now and as strong as ever before."

Bitter personal animosity created by years of rivalry has often soured relations between Hingsen and Olympic Champion Thompson, although earlier this year they finally agreed to bury the hatchet.

Hingsen improved the record he set in Bernhausen in June last year by 19 points and, according to Norbert Pixken, one of his trainers, he could do even better in the running and jumping events. Early in the second day of the

competition Hingsen set himself on course for a new record by outstripping his previous scores in the 100 metres, shot, discus and 110 metres hurdles.

Though he suffered a setback in the javelin event when an old elbow injury made him fall short of past performances by about eight metres, he more than made up for it in the 1,500 metres, completing the course in four minutes, 19.75 seconds.

Hingsen also had to give up the high jump at 2.07 metres because of rain even though he had cleared 2.15 metres on previous occasions.

"Conditions were not perfect and Juergen still has reserves to tap," said Siegfried Wentz, another competitor in the event.

Hingsen's details: 100 metres-10.70 seconds, long jump-7.76 metres, shot-16.42, high jump-2.07, 400 metres-48.05, 110 metres hurdles-14.07, discus-49.36, pole vault-4.90, javelin-59.86, 1,500 metres-4:19.75 seconds.

American Anderson scores easy victory in Australian marathon

SYDNEY (R) — American Jon Anderson ran on his own for the last 18 km (12 miles) to score an easy win in Sunday's Australian marathon through the streets of Sydney.

Anderson, 34, a publisher from Eugene, Oregon, clocked two hours 13 minutes and 18 seconds for the gruelling run, beating Andrew Lloyd of Sydney, U.S.-based Briton Malcolm East and Australian Danny Boltz.

Alain Lazare, from France's Pacific territory of New Caledonia, who needed a good time to clinch a place in the French team for the Los Angeles Olympics, was fifth in 2:15.55 for the 42.195 km event.

Lazare, 32, had injured his arm and left knee in a training fall on Thursday and required a painkilling injection just minutes before the start Sunday.

"I just had no legs after 30 kilometres," he said. "I'm not tired and a good time would have been no problem if I had felt good."

"I will ring the French Olympic selectors when I get back to new Caledonia, but I think my chances of an Olympic place are gone."

"The French federation does not give out presents."

Kentucky Derby winner Swale captures Belmont Stakes

BELMONT, New York (R) — Kentucky Derby winner Swale rebounded from a seventh place finish in the Preakness to win the 116th running of the Belmont Stakes by four lengths here Saturday.

Pine Circle, a 25-1 shot who has won only one race in two years, finished second three lengths ahead of Morning Bob, a 6-1 choice.

Taking the lead less than one-quarter of a mile into the race, Swale, the 3-2 favourite, was never challenged as he covered the mile and a half distance in two minutes, 27.2 seconds.

That time was three seconds slower than the track record set by Secretariat 11 years ago Saturday. But it was sufficient to give Swale the third leg of the American Triple Crown — comprising the Derby, Preakness and Belmont — and establish him as the top three-year-old colt in the country. Preakness winner Gate Dancer,

which went off at 9-2, challenged for the lead from the start before fading in the stretch to finish sixth.

Swale's victory enabled his jockey, Laffit Pincay Jr. of Panama, to become the first rider in more than 100 years to ride three consecutive Belmont Stakes winners.

It also gave 70-year-old trainer Woody Stephens his third straight Belmont winner, a feat which also had not been accomplished in more than a century.

Stephens trained and Pincay rode Conquistador Cielo to victory in 1982, and Caveat last year.

Play On, second to Gate Dancer in the Preakness and 7-2 in the betting on a scorching hot day at Belmont Park, broke first from his post on the rail. But his lead was shortlived as Swale overtook play on less than 100 yards into the race, and was never headed thereafter.

Breaking from the number six pole position, Swale led play on a length at the quarter-pole, with

English-bred Minstrel Star, a 45-1 longshot running in only his third race, a head back of play on.

Minstrel Star, ridden by J.C. Bailey and trained by Sally Lundy for Glenda Ramsden from the Isle of Man, drew to within a length of Swale at the half-mile mark. But Minstrel Star then fell back to fourth at the mile-post and eventually out of contention.

Swale's victory, his fourth Stakes triumph in seven races this year, earned his owner, Claiborne Farm, a record Belmont purse of \$310,020.

Pine Circle earned the Loblolly stable \$113,674 while Morning Bob earned \$62,004 for the Mike Rich stable.

Pincay said he was surprised at the ease with which Swale had taken the lead and held it throughout.

"The pace was very slow," he said. "If someone would have taken the lead, I would have let them."

Records broken at California meet

SAN JOSE, California (R) — Earl Bell set an American record of 5.80 metres in the pole vault and John Powell had a 1984 world best of 71.26 metres in the discus at The Athletics Congress National Track and Field Championships Saturday.

Former Olympic Champion Mac Wilkins was second in the discus with a distance of 70.44 metres.

In the women's events, Valerie Briscoe-Hooks became the first American woman ever to run 400 metres in less than 50 seconds, clocking 49.83. Judi Brown won the 400 metre hurdles in 54.99 seconds, another American record.

Bell, 28, set a world record of 5.67 metres in 1976, but lost it less than a month later to fellow American Dave Roberts, who vaulted

5.7 metres at the U.S. Olympic trials that year.

Bell missed three tries at 5.89 Saturday in an attempt to raise the world record of 5.88 set a week ago by Sergei Bubka of the Soviet Union.

Powell, 36, became third on the all-time world list in the discus behind Ben Plucknett of the United States (72.34 metres) and Yuri Dunchev of the Soviet Union (71.86 metres). Dunchev is the world record holder because Plucknett's mark was not recognised as a record after he tested positively for steroids.

Four-time Olympic discus champion 47-year-old Al Oerter of the United States had to withdraw from the finals because of a torn muscle in his leg.

Briscoe-Hooks broke the American record of 50.52 seconds set last month by Chandra Cheesborough and became ninth on the all-time world list. Eight of the women ahead of her — all but

Gaby Bussmann of West Germany (49.75) — are from countries that will boycott the Los Angeles Olympics, so Briscoe-Hooks emerged as a contender for the gold medal.

In the women's 400-metre hurdle, Brown defeated 17-year-old American Leslie Maxie, who set a world junior record of 55.20 seconds.

Edwin Moses, whose time of 48.25 seconds on Friday in the semi-finals of the men's 400-metre hurdles is the fastest in the world this year, withdrew from the final.

David Patrick of the United States won the final in 49.08 seconds.

In other women's events, Merlene Ottey of Jamaica won the 200 metres in 22.20. Ria Stalman won the shot put with the Dutch national record of 18.02 metres and 19-year-old Kim Gallagher of the United States won the 800 and 1,500 in respective times of 1:59.87 and 4:08.08.

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التي في لوك

Carmakers prepare for hard bargaining

OKYO — Quota restraint of Japanese car exports to the U.S. as outlined in its usefulness, according to critics in both countries. The so-called voluntary restraint entered its fourth year on April 1, extending what had originally been planned as a three-year agreement.

Japanese carmakers can export up to 1.85 million cars to the U.S. in this financial year, a slight increase over the 1.68 million permitted during each of the first three years of restraint.

Positions are now being staked out for the seemingly inevitable argument over how Japan's car exports will be managed after this quota-year.

Japanese carmakers themselves acknowledge a need to discipline their exports to the U.S. The question is whether any further extension of the quota system would be tolerated, should the U.S. want such a move.

It can be argued that the quotas have already achieved the goal for which they were established — to give the U.S. car industry a breathing space during which it would have at least the opportunity to develop the competitive production of fuel-efficient cars.

The big U.S. carmakers have emerged from recession to post record profits in 1983, aggregating \$6.15 billion for Detroit's "big four" — General Motors, Chrysler, Ford and American Motors Corporation. Earnings this year are likely to be sharply higher still.

Top executives are drawing increasingly large payments from performance-linked bonus funds.

Japanese carmakers, meanwhile, have been encouraged to make significant new investment in U.S. production facilities which would probably not have taken place without the spur of quota restraint.

The larger Japanese carmakers have done none too badly themselves from the quotas.

With supply artificially curtailed, Japanese cars have been selling in the U.S. at prices close to comparable U.S. models, despite the cost advantage of perhaps \$1,500 per car reckoned by analysts to be enjoyed by Japanese manufacturers.

The artificial preservation of fat profit margins means that U.S. sales account for an estimated 50 per cent or more of recent worldwide profits of Japan's three biggest carmakers — though cars exported to the U.S. are only a quarter of the industry's production volume.

The Japanese car industry might be expected to support the quota system — since it keeps the U.S. industry happy while guaranteeing a steady flow of profits.

In practice, however, it does not.

The smaller carmakers dislike the system because they emerge unfavourably from the quota allocations. Export ceilings were handed out to individual manufacturers by Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), based on export performance to the U.S. over the previous three years.

The 170,000-car increase for this fiscal year allowed MITI to boost slightly allocations to Isuzu (from 16,800 to 50,000) and Suzuki (from 10 to 17,000), both of which had expected restraint to end and were planning to supply their cars to General Motors (G.M.) for resale in America (G.M. is a minority shareholder in both companies).

But even after that fine tuning, the Japanese majors — Nissan, Toyota and Honda — hold 75 per cent of Japan's quota allocations.

Even the big carmakers, however, appear less than happy about the situation. Their U.S. profits are assured — but they are more concerned about market share and dealership networks, regarded as the key to longer-term growth.

The Japanese carmakers also fear that acceptance of a protectionist package in the U.S. however sweetened, could rebound on them in other export markets.

The Japanese do not, however, plan taking their case to the American public. They believe that if the U.S. ends its quotas it will be because of domestic pressure from the U.S. consumer lobby, not because of a desire to please Japan.

But they are anxious to help give a smooth ride to President Ronald Reagan during election year. They regard Mr. Walter Mondale, Mr. Reagan's probable electoral rival, as potentially far more dangerous a protectionist.

Japanese carmakers say that, if quotas did end, they would not be so provocative as to flood the U.S. market with their cars.

But for Japanese carmakers to agree on post-quota sales ceilings among themselves, would be a prima facie violation of U.S. anti-trust laws.

What the Japanese carmakers seem to have in mind is engineering only a modest increase in present unit volume without quotas formally in place.

The auto industry, meanwhile, accounts for 10 per cent of Japan's own gross domestic product and employs a similar proportion of its labour force. U.S. quotas, it might be argued, do provide a guarantee of continued access to the U.S. market for such an important industry. — Financial Times news features.

Argentina to send letter of intent to IMF

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina says details of its economic adjustment programme will be sent to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Monday, but there was no immediate indication whether the measures had been agreed to by IMF officials.

An official communique issued Saturday night after a two-hour cabinet meeting chaired by President Raul Alfonsín said the government would send a letter of intent to the IMF on Monday.

An IMF team has been in Buenos Aires for a month trying to reach an agreement with Argentina on a letter of intent — a first step towards obtaining help in refinancing the country's \$43.6 billion foreign debt.

A letter of intent is generally the result of negotiations between the fund and a country seeking financial help and normally details belt-tightening policies favoured by the IMF to overcome balance of payments problems.

But Mr. Alfonsín's government has consistently said in the six months since he was installed as

Argentina's first democratically-elected president for more than seven years that it would not accept austerity measures to tackle the debt problem and an annual inflation rate of more than 500 per cent.

Will relations worsen?

Argentine officials have said in recent weeks that if no agreement were reached with the fund negotiators, a letter of intent would be sent "unilaterally" — a move which could worsen relations with the international financial community.

"The government considered the terms of the letter of intent which will be sent to the International Monetary Fund and whose text was approved by Pres-

sident Raul Alfonsín," said the communique, read by presidential spokesman Mr. Jose Lopez.

Local news agencies reported that Mr. Lopez declined to say whether the text had been approved by IMF officials.

They quoted Mr. Lopez as saying that the letter would be sent to the fund on Monday, though he did not say whether it would be delivered in Washington or handed to IMF representatives here.

He said that the letter would also be published on Monday and sent to political parties, many of which signed a vaguely-worded political agreement with Alfonsín's radical party last Thursday.

"(The letter) expresses the majority will of the Argentine people reflected in the document signed by the government and political parties in the sense that 'the re-negotiation of the external debt should be carried out on the basis of an economic programme which allows all Argentina's potential to be displayed'," the communique

said.

"The letter of intent represents a formalisation of the Argentine position expressed to the officials of the International Monetary Fund in the negotiations which are underway with that organisation."

The communique added that the letter harmonised the will of the parties with the desire to meet external obligations.

U.S. banks and four Latin American countries put together a \$500 million rescue package last March so that Argentina could pay off interest arrears to U.S. banks who would otherwise have lost money on overdue loans.

A U.S. government guarantee to lend Argentina \$300 million to pay back the four countries — Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela and Colombia — expires on June 15 and is conditional on Argentina having reached an agreement with the IMF.

Mr. Alfonsín will not return from his trip to Spain until June 15.

Argentines learn to live with hyper-inflation

BUENOS AIRES — Mrs. Rosa Martinez, a 56-year-old housewife from one of the poorer working class suburbs of Buenos Aires, switched her vote last October to support Mr. Raul Alfonsín, Argentina's new civilian president. Since then, she has joined the 30 per cent of the population which is finding it hard to pay the family bills.

Mrs. Martinez works as a domestic servant for ten hours a day, five days a week. Her monthly take-home pay is 4,000 pesos (\$112).

According to Fide, an Argentine economic research group, a family of two adults and two children now needs over 13,000 pesos a month to live, excluding their transport costs.

"I've worked all my life and never had a problem. Now it's different. Before, prices used to go up a few cents, now it's 10, 20, 30 pesos all of a sudden. Once you had some idea what it was all worth. Now it takes you by surprise," Mrs. Martinez said.

Living with inflation in Argentina, which reached an annual rate of nearly 480 per cent in March, is not easy.

Many low income workers, like Mrs. Martinez, survive on credit and trying to short-circuit the system. Earlier this year, for instance, when butchers raised their prices by more than 100 per cent, she visited the meat packers to see if there were any bargain leftovers.

Higher up the social scale, the methods of dealing with inflation range from using credit cards, timing shopping sprees carefully so the bill will not need to be paid for at least a month, to putting money in index-linked deposit accounts and stocks and shares.

More dubious means include under-invoicing, or over-invoicing combined with the dexterous manipulation of the black market exchange rate and inter-company lending outside official

bank rates.

"The majority of survival techniques are devious and speculative and nothing to be proud of. It takes a shrewd, fox and imaginative mind to keep afloat," commented one local businessman.

Exchange controls and heavily regulated interest rates mean that, on the surface at least, the opportunities for speculation are not as great as they were in the heyday of the military regime. But fortunes are still being made in spite of, and because of, inflation.

Some bankers believe that as much as \$28 billion is still held by Argentines in foreign bank accounts, and a number of people live royally on the interest of their deposits and the rents from their properties.

Perhaps because of the Euphoria which surrounded Mr. Alfonsín's election win last year, Argentina's world title of the country with the highest inflation has been harder to excuse recently.

In each of the first three months since Mr. Alfonsín's December inauguration, the cost of living has outpaced official government forecasts by an average of 10 per cent.

Announcing the March lurch in the consumer price index of 20 percentage points, Mr. Bernardo Grinspun, the economy minister, suggested that the main upward pressure on prices had been generous wage settlements in recent weeks.

He may have been trying to prepare public opinion for the wage cuts which could follow an agreement with the International Monetary Fund over the rescheduling of Argentina's enormous foreign debt, for the opposition Peronist Party has subjected Mr. Grinspun to a grilling on every aspect of the foreign debt negotiation.

The attacks are particularly strong whenever the government

has seemed to be drifting from its bold electoral promise of economic expansion and financial sovereignty.

The unions have strongly resisted the suggestion that they are the culprits.

They claim that wage increases in excess of increases in productivity have been the result of inflation, rather than its cause.

Pay increases in the present wage round are ranging from 30 to 100 per cent.

The government claims that salaries in both the private and state sectors have increased by more than 3 per cent in real terms in the first quarter (more than half of the promised target for the year) but this must be qualified.

While wage settlements have been on a sharp upward curve since the last days of the military regime, they have not recovered the ground lost following the 1976 coup, when incomes were savagely slashed.

The policy pursued until recently by the government has been

to allow wages to keep pace with inflation but only retroactively.

Thus, with prices tending to outstrip government forecasts by dramatic margins, most low income earners have experienced several weeks in which their salaries have decreased, in real terms.

One of the most difficult aspects in government dealings with the trade unions is the degree of scepticism over the validity of official inflation figures.

The consumer price index does not accurately reflect the many distortions created by the Argentine way of doing business.

Price controls are virtually unenforceable against an army of middlemen and small scale retail outlets. Furthermore, restrictions on imports to save foreign exchange encourage scarcity and bring in the black-marketiers.

Lack of public faith in the government's ability to cope in this environment itself fuels rises in the inflation rate.

Saudi riyal interest rates rise in Bahrain

BAHRAIN (R) — Interest rates on large Saudi riyal deposits at offshore banks in Bahrain rose Sunday from lows reached after last Wednesday's surprise revaluation of the currency, dealers said.

They said uncertainty still prevailed in the market after the parity shift, in which a large number of Bahrain banks lost money.

"It would take a lot of nerve to take a big position now," one dealer said.

Rates tumbled earlier in the week after the shift, leading dealers to suggest an official desire for lower interest rates might have been the reasons for the revaluation.

"Rates are beginning to creep up again," one dealer said.

Day-to-day funds rose from lows achieved after official contract payments and bid reversals of long dollar positions to around 6-1/2 5-1/2 per cent Sunday from around four per cent Saturday.

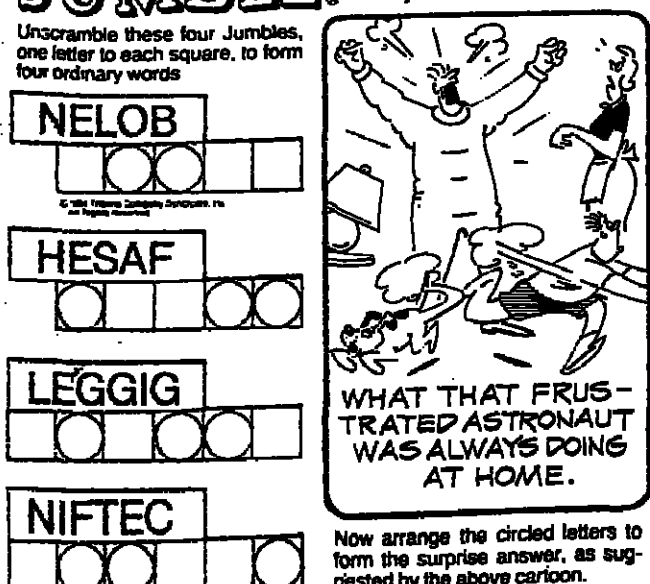
One-month funds were at 10 9-1/4 per cent and three-month at 10-1/2 1/4 per cent, both up 1/4 point from Saturday morning's levels, while six-month funds were unchanged at 11-1/2 1/4 per cent.

The spot riyal was steady at 3.5085/95 to the dollar, but trading was also quiet.

THE BETTER HALF By Harris



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: C R O U P L A R V A H A R R O W B E L O N G

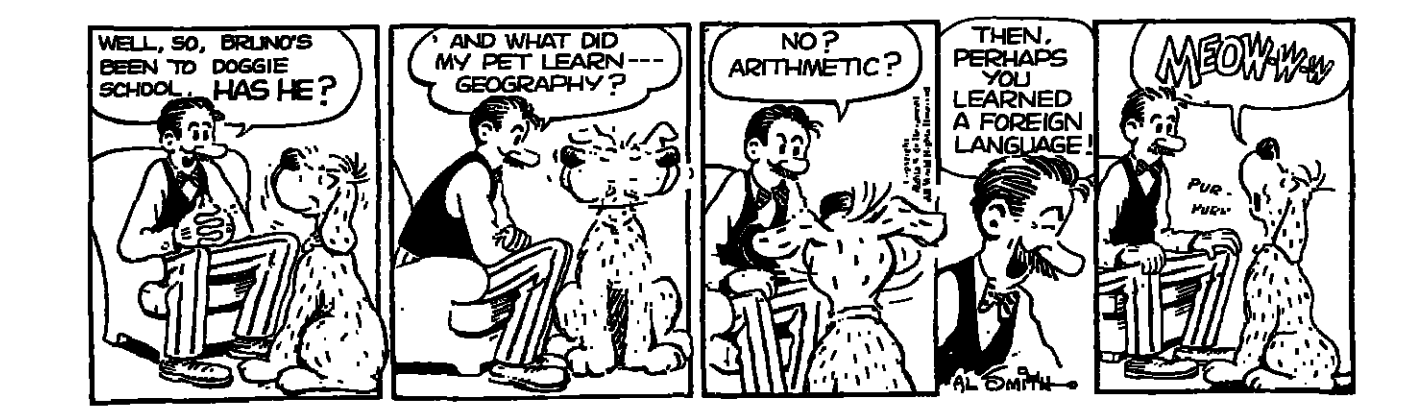
Yesterday's Jumble: C R O U P L A R V A H A R R O W B E L O N G

Answer: "How many pounds of limburger cheese do you want?" — A "PHEW"

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



'Indonesians lack skill'

JAKARTA (R) — Forced replacement of expatriate workers in Indonesia by local people would bring severe cuts in productivity because of the lack of skilled Indonesians, the official newspaper of the ruling Golkar Party said Saturday. The Suara Karya said popular demands to reduce the estimated 16,000 foreign workers in Indonesia were causing anxiety in foreign as well as Indonesian companies. "If these demands were heeded, production would certainly suffer," it said in an editorial. The paper quoted Manpower Minister Admiral Sudomo as saying qualified people could be found for only half of more than 163,000 job vacancies in the private sector last year. This showed jobs were available but Indonesians lacked the skill and expertise to do them, the paper said. "Kicking out foreign workers would indeed create more job openings, but would not reduce unemployment," the paper said.

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, JUNE 11, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This day you will ricochet between being too argumentative at one moment and then being able to see the best manner in which to progress swiftly.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You have a chance to express fine creative talents, but later try not to be too demanding. Do not show any sort of temperance.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Home is your best bet today, and an even temper at home is best. Do not vacillate from affectionate to uncaring.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Make sure that you are living the philosophy of life that you believe in and be true to your ideas. Don't daydream.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Study into any financial matters that interest you, and don't brag one minute and then act very miserly the next.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Your personal desires seem close at one moment and remote the next, but if you are consistent and go after them, they can be yours.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Early plan just how to gain your fondest aims so that they can later be won very amiably and easily. Show affection to loved ones.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Be more discriminating where friends are concerned now, otherwise you could get bounced around like a ball.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Study any worldly tasks carefully, and handle those that are good and forget the others. Approach only bigwigs you know.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have new ideas that are very worthwhile, so forget the petty ones that amount to nothing. Take nothing for granted.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A day when you can handle business matters well, but use care nonetheless, since some conditions could prove deceptive.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Use care in talks with partners since some may seem agreeable but are actually against you. Read small print carefully.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get your time well scheduled since your work may go smoothly. Later you run into snag that will test your patience.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will look at everything from its greatest potential, so send to right schools where such vision is developed wisely. Teach early to avoid being so demanding that others will resent your progeny.

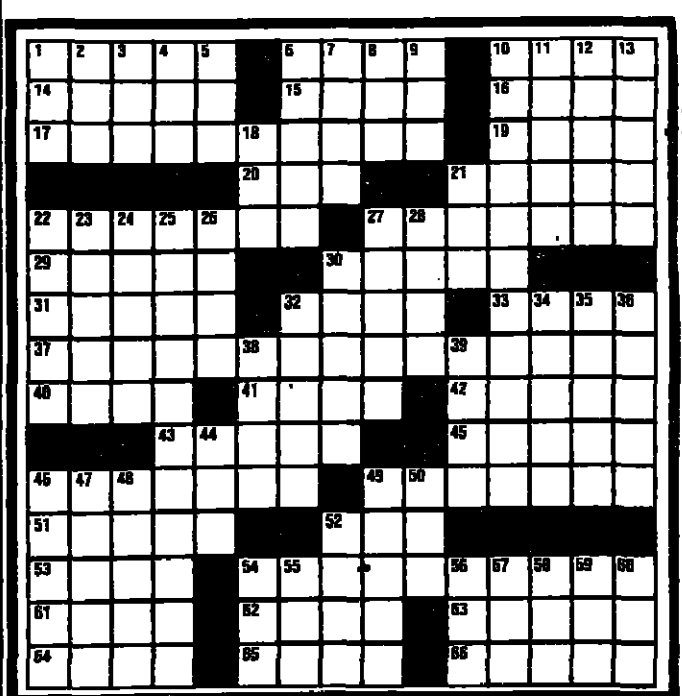
"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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THE Daily Crossword by Melvin Kenworthy

ACROSS	30 Punctuation mark	54 Fairy tale character	24 Sour substances
1 Down-to-earth	31 Potpourri	61 Skin ridge	25 Children's game
6 Small insect	32 Pedestal part	62 Footless	26 "This—sudden!"
10 Evil old women	33 Beauty	63 Zodiac sign	27 Fr. sculptor
14 On reserve	37 Nursery rhyme character	64 Vend	28 N.C. college
16 Bring up	40 Space grp.	65 Roric	29 Chicago airport
17 Fairy tale characters	41 Eng. river	66 Remains	30 Decree
19 Wet	42 Exit		31 Goliath's conqueror
20 Go-between: abbr.	43 Out		32 Goliath's conqueror
21 Unearthly	45 Bo		33 Tristan or Romeo
22 Humiliating	46 Burdened		34 Chicago airport
27 TV camera	49 Lab equipment		35 Tristan or Romeo
	51 Caneas is its capital		36 Onion cousins
	52 — Bias		37 Chess move
	53 Fairy tale opener		38 Alan or Robert
			39 Bravo!
			40 Barges
			41 Water
			42 Shocker
			43 Hen
			44 Yale man
			45 Wander idly
			46 Unclose
			47 to poets
			48 Veggies
			49 Table scrap
			50 Successor of OSS
			51 Opener
			52 Draft letters

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS: 1. LARK, 2. ADAMS, 3. CAVA, 4. ORIO, 5. PEWITT, 6. IVAN, 7. GOSPEL, 8. COLUMBIAN, 9. EYE, 10. MENTAL, 11. AIDES, 12. BAKARD, 13. WANDLADS, 14. ACTED, 15. TACKY, 16. UWE, 17. EYSE, 18. TAKE, 19. HAZED, 20. HURD, 21. BUREAU, 22. SHED, 23. POWERED, 24. AITSEN, 25. ABED, 26. ACED, 27. ARTIE, 28. EVER, 29. APT, 30. NEWSCOMMENTARY, 31. EDITH, 32. LATINO, 33. WOMIE, 34. METIS, 35. DELTA, 36. EMMY.



Death toll reportedly reaches 700 in 3 days of Punjab violence

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — More than 700 people are now believed to have died when the Indian army stormed Amritsar's Golden Temple to flush out Sikh terrorists and in the subsequent violence and protests, informed police sources said Sunday.

The sources, quoted by Reuters and who had previously put the death toll at 500, said more bodies had been found under rubble in the temple complex which security forces backed by armoured cars stormed on Wednesday with machineguns, rockets and mortars.

The latest official death toll was given Saturday night by the officer who led the assault, Major General R.S. Brar, who told state television that 55 soldiers and up to 400 terrorists had been killed.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) earlier reported that 470 bodies had been cremated so far.

The police sources said snipers were still active in the temple area and troops were conducting a house-to-house sweep.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has defended the attack as an unavoidable operation to root out militants whom the government bla-

mes for violence during a Sikh campaign for religious and political concessions.

The police sources said after the temple assault, about 150 to 200 Sikh troops at a base in Rajasthan state forced their way from their barracks in commandeered lorries and tried to drive to Amritsar in neighbouring Punjab.

They were intercepted at Mal-out in Punjab by other army units and most were disarmed. But about 25 escaped and were still at large, the sources added.

But the Indian Defence Ministry said Sunday the reported army desertion was not true. A Defence Ministry statement said Sikh terrorists, disguised as Indian army soldiers, battled pursuing troops and denied the reported mutiny among Sikh soldiers who protested the army assault on the Golden Temple.

The Times of India reported Sunday that extremists tried to sow tension and confusion Saturday in Rajasthan state on the border of Punjab by masquerading as troops.

The government also reported that 17 people, including eight soldiers, were killed and 80 terrorists arrested Saturday in two encounters with government forces in the Amritsar district.

Government forces also discovered a hand-grenade factory near the Golden Temple complex, the United News of India (UNI) reported Sunday, quoting official sources.

Meanwhile, Khushwant Singh, winner of India's highest national honour for literature, told the Associated Press that he has received reliable information from an official visitor to the temple that more than those reported by Indian officials were killed.

"The actual numbers are much higher than those reported by the government," said Mr. Singh, author, journalist, commentator and most respected spokesman for India's 13 million Sikhs. He said,

he is setting up an independent inquiry committee. "What the government is putting out is not the truth. ... We are not buying the government version," he said.

Mr. Singh turned in his national medal to President Zail Singh, a Sikh, to protest "the unnecessary desecration of the temple."

Gen. Brar said there was a definite indication of foreign involvement in the Sikh crisis. Two Pakistanis were among the extremists killed inside the Golden Temple complex, he said.

Low turnouts were initially reported Sunday at Sikh temples throughout India and security officials said it appeared many Sikhs were deliberately keeping away for fear of violence.

Sikhs normally gather in large numbers at their temples for prayers at weekends and officials had earlier said they did not rule out possible disturbances Sunday.

Groups of Sikhs have called for the resignation of President Singh, the first Sikh to hold the office since India won its independence in 1947.

Salvadorean guerrillas claim 18 army casualties

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Salvadorean leftist rebels said Saturday they had killed or wounded 18 government troops in an ambush in eastern Usulután province.

Rebel Radio Venceremos, the official voice of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN), said the ambush took place Friday in the village of Nueva Granada in Usulután, 125 kilometres east of here.

A military spokesman confirmed the ambush but declined to give figures on army losses.

It was the latest in a series of clashes reported in the last week between rebels and the U.S.-

backed army. Fighting had subsided just prior to and after the May 6 election of President Jose Napoleon Duarte.

Usulután province, one of the major areas of increased insurgency by leftist rebels, is currently the scene of an anti-rebel sweep.

Meanwhile, more than 2,000 soldiers of an elite U.S.-trained battalion and the Fifth Infantry Brigade Saturday began their eighth day of a major counter-insurgency operation in a remote area of northern San Vicente province, military sources said.

Opposition says Ershad using army for politics

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh's major opposition parties said Sunday military commanders had been ordered to take part in political activities initiated by Janadad, the party emerging around military President Hossain Mohammad Ershad.

"This has created a dangerous situation because he is trying to set the army against the people," the two alliances of 22 opposition parties said in a joint statement.

They said Gen. Ershad, who seized power in a bloodless military coup in 1982 had already lost his neutral image.

"Despite still being the army chief, he has floated his political party and turned the military administration into a full-fledged political government under the banner of Janadad," they said.

Fifteen members of Gen. Ershad's 24-man cabinet belong to Janadad and party sources said the remaining ministers would either soon join the party or leave the cabinet.

Gen. Ershad has told several public rallies that Janadad would win at least 250 of 300 parliamentary seats at stake in an election.

Communication satellite out of control after launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (R) — A multi-million dollar communications satellite was tumbling out of control in an elliptical orbit Sunday after its launch Saturday night.

U.S. space agency officials said they did not expect to resolve the problem quickly. "We know of no reason for the tumbling and there's little chance to resolve the cause in the near future," said a spokesman.

It was the fourth time in 15 months that a communications satellite launched by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) had failed to enter its proper orbit, although one of them was later salvaged.

The satellite, Intelsat 5, was owned by a 108-nation consortium, the International Telecommunications Satellite Organisation, and insured for \$102 million.

It was launched by an atlas centaur rocket at 7:03 p.m. (23:03 GMT). It separated flawlessly from the atlas but 23 minutes after launch began tumbling while still

attached to the centaur, the upper stage booster rocket, officials said. Then, on its second firing, the centaur burned for only a few seconds instead of a minute and a half.

Intelsat 5 was in an orbit ranging from 148 kilometres to 1,230 kilometres above the earth instead of its planned wider, elliptical orbit. On Tuesday it was to have been moved into stationary orbit more than 20,000 miles above Gabon.

"Within a week we'll have a pretty good idea what system failed," said John Gib, atlas centaur programme manager. "If we have it wrapped up in six weeks or two months we'll be doing well."

The problem was the latest in a string of disappointing satellite launches for the U.S. space programme.

On the 11th space shuttle mission in February this year, two communications satellites, one belonging to Western Union and one to Indonesia, did not enter desired orbits because booster rockets failed.

Opposition to protest against results of Filipino elections

MANILA (R) — Opposition supporters in the central Philippines city of Cebu said Sunday they planned a rally to protest against the results of last month's parliamentary elections as residents reported growing anger and tension.

Election officials declared Saturday that five members of the ruling New Society Movement (KBL) and one from the opposition had won in Cebu, a province regarded as opposition territory.

Voters there backed the opposition in the 1978 elections, although the KBL swept almost all the rest of the country.

John Osmeña, campaign manager for the opposition United Nationalist Democratic Organisation (UNIDO), told Reuters by telephone that there was considerable tension in Cebu city.

"We are petitioning the supreme court. But people are angry and agitated," he said. "We are planning a protest rally and my big

problem is to hold back people."

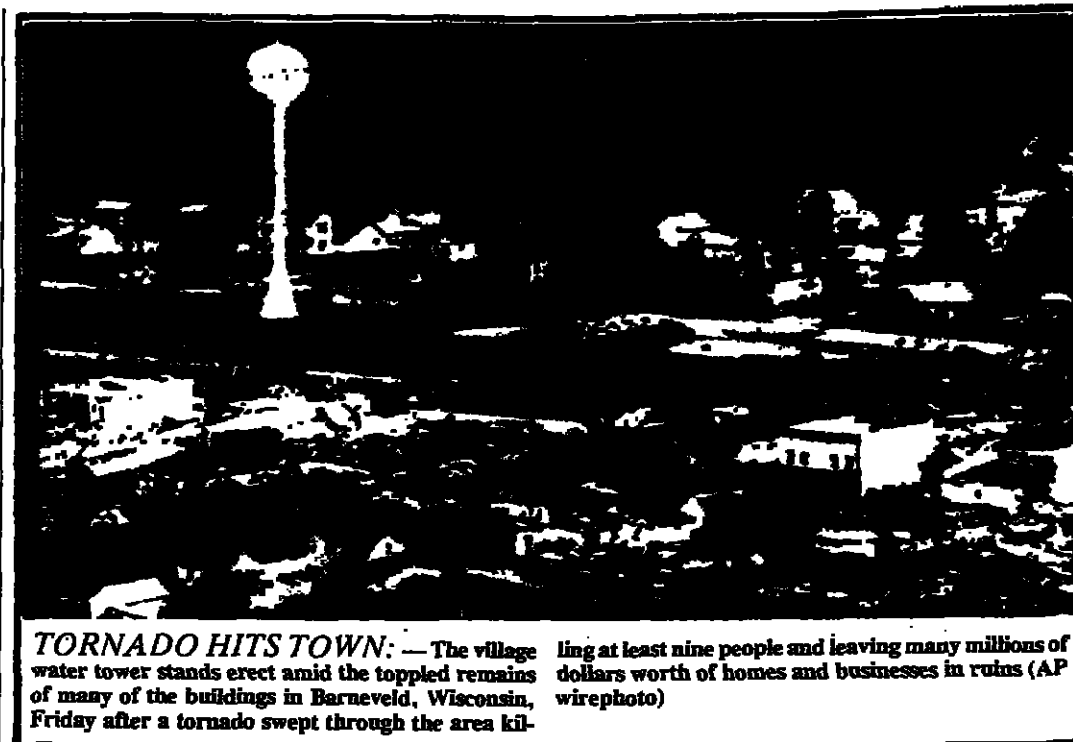
One person was killed in Cebu city last month when security forces fired on a brick-hurling crowd attempting to march on the vote-counting centre after UNIDO members, leading by big margins at one stage, suddenly found they were trailing.

The opposition has alleged that the KBL rigged counting to deprive it of a national victory. But President Ferdinand Marcos has said he has never cheated in an election.

Of the 183 seats at stake in the polls, the KBL has so far won 108 and the opposition and independents 71. Results from four seats are awaited.

The lone opposition winner in Cebu, Nenita Cortes-Daluz, refused Saturday to take the oath as a winner. While KBL winners were being proclaimed, she and her supporters held a noisy protest.

The election commission has been delayed by protests from losing candidates.



TORNADO HITS TOWN: — The village of Barneveld, Wisconsin, was left at least nine people and leaving many millions of dollars worth of homes and businesses in ruins (AP wirephoto) Friday after a tornado swept through the area.

Reagan ends 10-day European trip

LONDON (AP) — President Reagan left for home Sunday after a 10-day European trip that took him to his great-grandfather's village in Ireland, the D-Day beaches in Normandy and the summit in London.

Air Force One took off from London's Heathrow Airport at 10:45 a.m. (09:45 GMT), bound for Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland.

At a news conference before his departure, the president said he

took little notice of the 50,000 anti-nuclear protesters who massed in London Saturday as the seven-nation economic summit was ending. He said they were not "speaking for the majority."

Mr. Reagan said the protesters "think they have a simple answer to warfare ... they have not stopped to think it might be the peace of the grave."

In Saturday's demonstrations, 198 people were arrested as hundreds tried to lay siege to Lan-

caster House, where leaders of the non-Communist world's seven leading industrial powers were meeting, and to the U.S. embassy a mile away.

In a separate demonstration, tens of thousands marched from Hyde Park to Trafalgar Square, protesting the deployment of U.S.-made cruise missiles at a base 80 kilometres west of London, the first of 572 cruise and Pershing-2 missiles NATO is deploying in Western Europe.

Hart tells supporters he will not quit

DENVER, Colorado (R) — Senator Gary Hart returned home to Colorado Saturday night and told 3,000 cheering supporters that he would not give up his bid to win the Democratic Party's nomination for president.

"I do not quit. Despite the odds and the prediction of the experts this candidacy is alive and well," he told the Colorado Democratic States Convention.

Sen. Hart shifted his political

criticism and attacks from Democratic front-runner Walter Mondale to President Ronald Reagan, drawing cheers when he said: "I can't wait to run against a president who has more tuxedos than books."

He accused Mr. Reagan of running an administration which had cut programmes for the elderly, poor and disadvantaged and weakened the labour movement.

Following last Tuesday's final

series of five primaries where he won California but lost New Jersey to former Vice-President Mondale, Sen. Hart met supporters and colleagues in Washington to assess his chances of overcoming Mr. Mondale's apparent majority in delegates to the July nominating convention.

He told the Colorado delegates: "Today, I return home to reaffirm my candidacy and the cause to which it is committed."

Author alleges Pope John Paul I was killed

LONDON (AP) — Pope John Paul I, who reigned for 33 days in 1978, was murdered because he intended to crack down on corruption in the Vatican, according to a Sunday newspaper report here.

The weekly Observer said that British author David Yallop made the allegation in a book to be published Thursday and he believes that the pontiff was poisoned.

Yallop writes that members of the secret Italian Masonic Lodge P2, which purportedly had links with the Vatican bank and also the Banco Ambrosiano, were involved in the Pope's death. Banco Ambrosiano, Italy's largest private bank, was liquidated by the government in August 1982 fol-

lowing a financial scandal that touched on investments by the Vatican Bank.

Yallop's book, "In God's Name", is being issued by Jonathan Cape, a long-established publishing house. Neither the author nor the publishers could be reached for comment early Sunday.

The Vatican report on the death of John Paul I on Sept. 29, 1978, said he was found dead in his bed by his private secretary at 5:30 a.m. and had suffered a heart attack around 11 p.m. the previous evening.

Yallop writes that John Paul I "swiftly confounded those who had dismissed him as a likeable lightweight who would be easily

manipulated by the conservative Vatican bureaucracy."

He alleges the pontiff was killed because he was preparing to take decisive actions in several areas including liberalising the Roman Catholic Church's rules on birth control, an inquiry into the Vatican's finances and removal of several high officials.

The Observer, seeking a comment on the allegations, said it contacted the Rev. Anthony Churchill, a spokesman for Cardinal Hume, the archbishop of Westminster, and he said, "I do not imagine the Cardinal would wish to comment on a book of this kind without having read it. It all sounds rather far-fetched."

Soviet press highlights Western differences

MOSCOW (R) — The official Soviet press said Sunday differences between the United States and its partners had made a failure of the seven-nation economic summit in London.

TASS News Agency wrote: "Washington ... sought to subordinate the partners to its aggressive militarist policy and to create a semblance of 'political unity' in the West."

Arkady Maslennikov, a commentator for the Communist Party newspaper Pravda, said the summit, which ended Saturday, showed the West's inability to work out a common approach to problems.

"Being unable to work out any concrete recommendations on the substance of the economic problems disuniting them, the par-

ticipants in the summit, as in the past, took the road of adopting grandiloquent political statements," he said.

Soviet commentators did not dismiss the summit statement that the leaders were ready to work for better relations with Moscow, but TASS said the U.S. and its allies were to blame for East-West tension.

Western diplomats in Moscow said the Soviet press was clearly trying to stress Western disarray in advance of the summit of the Communist trading bloc Comecon, opening in Moscow on Tuesday.

The 10 countries attending the Comecon meeting are expected to issue a statement on closer cooperation and Western analysts said this had already been worked

out.

They expected it to speak of unity and to gloss over differences between Moscow and its allies on long-term economic strategy.

"It helps to show the capitalist world squabbling before presenting a show of Communist unity," one Western envoy said.

TASS said a show of unity at the London summit was designed to hide disagreement over U.S. interest rates and free trade policies. "The differences which tear the capitalist world asunder," TASS called them.

It said the summit's statement on fighting terrorism could be used against liberation movements and developing countries whose foreign policy displeased the United States.

COLUMN

A million dollar debt for a rose

ATLANTA (AP) — Gene Clopton figures the English village of Hadleigh owes his family well over \$1 million in merchandise, but he'll forgive the debt for one red rose. One of his ancestors, Sir William Clopton, granted the village the use of a building in 1439 for the annual rent of one red rose. Clopton discovered recently. Further research revealed that the village apparently paid its last rose in 1470. Clopton said. "My company comptroller has computed the interest on the roses from 1471 through 1983 at 2 per cent," said Clopton, who owns a printing and communications company in Atlanta. "The computer printout shows that, when we add the interest to the roses, the village now owes us 1,303,364 roses" — worth well over \$1 million at today's prices, he said. "For the sake of good international relations, the family will probably decide to cancel the debt, providing that the village pay us another rose for the next 500 years of rental," he said. "We want that one in advance, considering the village's past payment record."

Bison brought back to Latvia

MOSCOW (R) — The first bison to be seen in Latvia for centuries have been resettled from Byelorussia in the hope of re-establishing them in the Soviet Baltic Republic, the Soviet News Agency TASS said Saturday. Bison, once numerous in Europe, are still found in the Soviet Republic of Byelorussia and neighbouring Poland. Those brought to Latvia are living in a national park where conditions similar to those in their old habitat have been recreated, TASS said.

6 charged for Corsican jail killings

AJACCIO, Corsica (R) — Six men including a village mayor were charged Saturday in connection with the shooting dead in jail of two prisoners in a feud among Corsican nationalists, police said. The killers, members of the banned Corsican National Liberation Front (FLNC), accused their victims of betraying their leader, Guy Orsoni, kidnapped and murdered in June 1983, police said. The charges are murder, complicity, and re-forming a banned organisation. In the raid on the prison, three heavily-armed men, two of them dressed as police, burst in at dawn when rubbish was put out.

Infant mortality rate down in China

PEKING (AP) — Peking's infant mortality rate has dropped from 117.6 per thousand in 1949, when the Communists came to power, to 9.95 per thousand in 1982, the Peking Daily reported recently. The municipal Communist Party organ quoted Lin Chuanjia, director of the city's Child Health Centre, as saying the mortality rate for young infants is also down sharply, from 44 per thousand in 1951 to 6.2 per thousand in 1982, the latest figure available.

Anti-cancer-drug effective for arthritis

MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota (AP) — An anti-cancer drug has proven "very effective" in treating rheumatoid arthritis, according to a study presented Saturday at the American Rheumatism Association's annual meeting. The drug, methotrexate, helped reduce pain and swelling in more than half of the arthritis sufferers who used it in an 18-week nationwide trial, said Dr. John R. Ward, a physician at the University of Utah. Dr. Ward, who directed the study, said it was the first comparison of methotrexate against a placebo in testing the drug's effectiveness and safety for rheumatoid arthritis. Rheumatoid arthritis, which affects 6.5 million adults in the United States, is the most common type of crippling arthritis. Dr. Ward said. The rheumatoid arthritis study was conducted at eight university clinics and the National Institutes of Health. It involved volunteer patients who had failed to respond to other treatments, but continued to take nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs such as aspirin during the study.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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CLUBBED TO DEATH

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♦ Q7
♥ 52
♦ Q2
♠ AQJ1072
WEST
♥ J853
♦ 10743
♥ Q109
♠ 53
EAST
♠ AK10942
♥ Q
♦ K743
♠ 64

SOUTH
♦ 6
♥ AKJ86
♦ A865
♠ 98

The bidding:
North East South West
3 NT Pass 6 ♦ Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Jack of ♠.

Periodically, we are taken to task by a reader for being old-fashioned. Specifically, we are accused of ignoring all modern conventions. That is not quite the case. We do ignore some conventions because of their complexity; and we don't write about others because we doubt their worth. To illustrate, here's an example of a convention that we feel we can do without — the gambling three no trump opening bid. This hand is from the 1983 Asia and Middle East Bridge Championships.

North's opening bid of three no trump is typical of the convention — it shows a solid, seven-card minor suit and not more than one stopper outside the suit. South judged well that his hand was suitable for slam, so he bid six clubs — the suit

he knew belonged to his partner. Observe that, as the cards lie, six clubs by North cannot be defeated. But after the jack of diamonds lead, most of those players who declared from the South hand found the contract too much for them. The opening lead was covered by the queen and king and won by the ace. Most declarers led a high heart and, when the queen dropped, they first cashed one high club before leading a second heart. That would have worked had West held a singleton trump as well as a singleton heart, but on the actual distribution the contract quickly went down two.

Actually, the hand can be made even with the jack of diamonds lead. Declarer wins the ace, cashes one high heart and then runs all his clubs, reducing the hand to:

NORTH
♦ Q7
♥ 5
♦ 2
♠ —
WEST
♦ —
♥ 1074
♦ 9
♠ —
EAST
♠ AK
♥ —
♦ 74
♠ —

SOUTH
♦ —
♥ AJ9
♦ 8
♠ —

Now declarer simply throws West in with a diamond. West is forced to lead a heart into declarer's tenace, and he takes the last three tricks.

Polish government fights elections boycott by opposition

By Donald Forbes

Reuters

WARSAW — There are no fiery manifestos and not a single baby has been kissed but Polish voters are being wooed in an election campaign which might be more familiar in the West than in politically regimented East Europe.

In a word, they are being offered a choice. There the resemblance with the West partly ends. The choice is not between candidates but between voting or abstaining in Poland's first national elections since the Solidarity crisis.

The authorities have mobilised all their formidable propaganda resources to lure people into taking part in local council polls on June 17 as a sign of support for Communist rule.

A counter-campaign by the underground opposition, led by activists of the banned Solidarity Union, has plastered the country with "boycott" stickers in an effort to destroy the government's claim that it has wide popular support.

Prominent opposition spokesmen, including Solidarity Leader Lech Walesa have said publicly that they will not vote although they have resisted calling on the country to follow their lead to avoid the risk of prosecution.

The elections have become the latest battlefield in the struggle between the government and its political opponents since Solidarity was suppressed by martial law in 1981.

Zolnierz Wolnosc, the hardline army daily, said: "elections, the act itself of casting a vote, are a choice of road and a way for everyone to declare himself for or against Socialist Poland."

The underground view was put by Zbigniew Bujak, head of Solidarity's clandestine leadership (TKK), who said in a news bulletin: "A struggle is being waged over whether we shall become a subservient society or a civic-minded one. The authorities want the elections to show that they have succeeded in intimidating us."

Mr. Bujak, Poland's most wanted political fugitive, added: "The government's sole electoral programme is to chase as many people to the polling stations as it can. A citizen's reply to this can only be a boycott."

The opposition believes a big abstention will give the union fresh energy in its flagging efforts to oppose the re-assertion of Communist control over every sector of life in Poland.

Prime Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski's government has abandoned in advance any prospect that the 22,500,000 eligible voters will give it anything near the 95 per cent support which is the norm in most Communist countries.

A senior official indicated that a 70 per cent turnout would be acceptable to the authorities. The government said this number of people had taken the trouble to make sure that their names were on electoral registers.

Employees of state concerns said they were under official pressure to vote. They said they had been refused holiday leave coinciding with the elections and had

been warned that the names of abstainers would be noted for possible disciplinary action.

Any boycott is expected to be more effective in the towns than in the country where failure to vote will be more conspicuous in small communities. Sweeteners to voters this month have included extra supplies of rationed sugar and butter.

Despite its ability to force many people to vote whatever their political views, the government has geared for the worst.

A Communist shipyard worker interviewed by state television said: "If the vote is 55 per cent, we will have to be happy with that. We do not want 99 per cent. We want to be realistic."

A Solidarity source forecast that 60 per cent of Poles would vote. Another said: "The vote will be 30 per cent but they will say it was 75."

Political sources say his remark presaged what will probably be another full-scale propaganda dispute — the validity of the res-

ults once they are announced.

Solidarity says it has worked out a foolproof way of monitoring the turnout at polling booths in case the government tries to inflate figures. The sources said the underground would almost certainly challenge whatever level of voting is claimed.

The election, the first on a national scale since 1980, is being held under legislation passed this year which the government said would enhance democracy in Poland.

The claim is mocked by Solidarity which says that the 330,000 people standing are all approved by the authorities and that ballot procedures have been designed to ensure the election of the most favoured candidates.

The candidates are contesting 110,000 seats on regional and local councils. The authorities said that the main issues raised at meetings between voters and candidates were the poor state of the environment, transport, health and education.